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THE

FIRE LANDS PIONEER:

PUBLISHED BY THE

Fire Lands Historical Society,

AT THEIR ROOMS IN

WHITTLESEY BUILDING, NORWALK, OHIO.

Greene County Room

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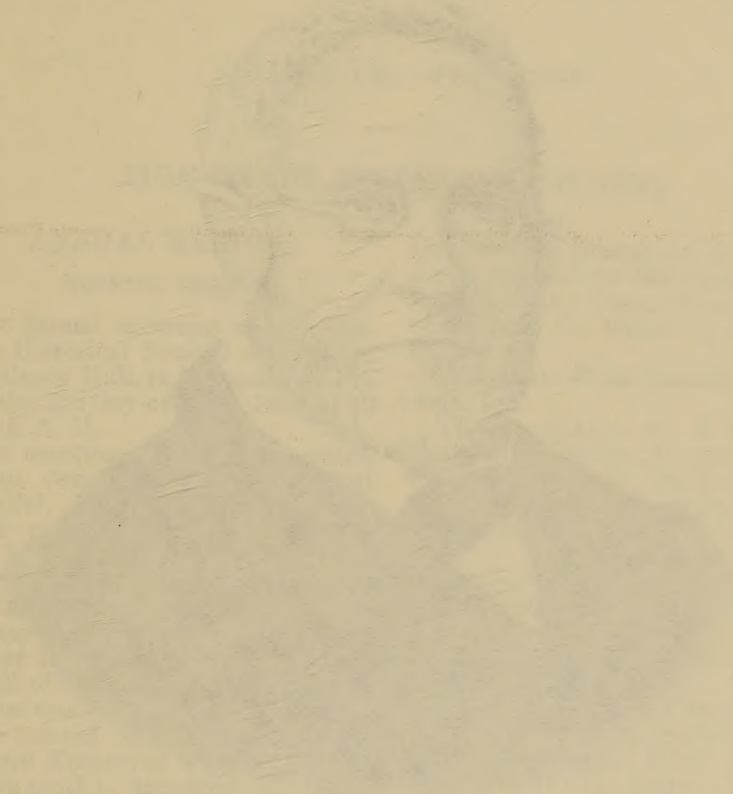

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Engraved by W. S. Walker, Phila.

Sincerely yours
Elihu

THE FIRE LANDS PIONEER.

VOLUME VIII.—JUNE, 1867.

FIRE LANDS HISTORICAL SOCIETY.

ANNUAL MEETING.

MORNING SESSION.

The annual meeting of the Firelands Historical Society was held at Whittlesey Hall, in Norwalk, on Friday, the 22d day of June, 1866, at 10 o'clock A. M.

The meeting was called to order, by the venerable President, Platt Benedict, Esq., of Norwalk, after which prayer was offered by the Rev. Mr. Hartley, of Norwalk.

The minutes of the last quarterly meeting were read by the Secretary and approved.

After the reading of the minutes, the roll of Township Historical Committees was called.

The annual reports of the Secretary and Treasurer were then read, and, on motion, accepted and adopted.

The Biographer, Judge S. C. Parker, then reported the names of the members of the Society who had died during the previous year.

A history of John B. Flemmond, the old Indian Trader and Interpreter, prepared by Francis Graham, Esq., of Ashland, Ohio, was read by the Secretary.

The Secretary then read the Constitution of the Society, after which the meeting proceeded to the election of officers for the ensuing year. The following named persons were elected to the following offices respectively:

President—Platt Benedict, of Norwalk.

Vice Presidents—G. H. Woodruff, Norwich; E. Bemiss, Groton; Z. Phillips, Berlin; S. C. Parker, Greenfield; J. H. Niles, Norwich.

Secretary—C. P. Wickham, Norwalk.

Corresponding Secretaries—F. D. Parish, Sandusky City; P. N. Schuyler, Norwalk.

Treasurer—C. A. Preston, Norwalk.

Directors—C. A. Preston, Norwalk; F. D. Parish, Sandusky City; Z. Phillips, Berlin; P. N. Schuyler, Norwalk; D. H. Pease, Norwalk.

Biographer—S. C. Parker, Greenfield.

Keeper of Cabinet—R. T. Rust, Norwalk.

On motion, adjourned until half past one o'clock P. M.

AFTERNOON SESSION.

The meeting was called to order at 1½ P. M. by the President, and the exercises commenced by the singing of Northfield by the Choir.

On motion of P. N. Schuyler. Esq., the 6th Article of the Constitution was so amended as to read as follows:

Art. 6. Any person may become a member of this Society by signing, or having his name affixed to, the Constitution, and paying into the Treasury the sum of twenty-five cents; and any person also may be received by vote of the Society, as an honorary member.

On motion, the following was substituted for the 5th Article of the Constitution:

Art. 5. The office and records of the Society shall be kept at Norwalk. The annual meeting for the election of officers shall also be held at Norwalk, on the second Wednesday of June, at 10 o'clock A. M.

Capt. Woodruff, of Peru, then read a Biography of Mrs. Polly Pierce.

"Archdale" was then sung by the choir.

The following relics and curiosities were exhibited by the following named persons respectively:

By Miner Cole of Norwalk—Two curious round stones that had probably been used for some purpose by the Indians, and which were taken from an old Indian fortification on his farm in Norwalk.

By Joseph Wood of Lyme—A small pocket knife that had been used by his grandfather's great-grandfather, two hundred years ago.

By D. H. Pease of Norwalk—A clothes-brush over fifty years old, used by the father of Mr. Pease before his marriage; a foot mat worked within the last year by his mother now 71 years old; a family register worked forty years ago by his sister, Mrs. F. W. Krider of Wayne, Mich., when only 8 years old, the material being of flax spun and woven by her mother, Mrs. Clarissa Pease, Xenia, Ohio.

By Ami Keeler of Norwalk—A "Queen's Arm," made in 1762, belonging to his grandfather in the Revolutionary War, given to his son Luke Keeler,and now in the possession of the exhibitor. It is the gun with which a Mr. Soules, who was on guard, wounded Negonata,one of the Indian prisoners executed many years ago in Norwalk.

By Judge Parker of Greenfield—A bowl belonging to the late Mrs. Polly Pierce and owned by her great-grandmother.

By Mr. Gage of Centerton—An old pocket pistol used by R. E. Lee, when a boy.

By Asa Haines, of Centerton—A curiously carved stone.

By Jones Boughton of Norwich—Relics from the house of the father of Abraham Lincoln.

By the heirs of Capt. Coit of Greenfield—Log book of Capt. Coit used by him while making a voyage around the world; Life of Benjamin Franklin written by himself and printed in Albany, N. Y., in 1797; New England Almanack and Farmers' Friend, for 1828; An Essay on the Shorter Catechism, printed in 1796; Blunt's American Coast Pilot, printed in 1812; Merchant's and Shipmaster's Ready Calculator, printed in 1804; Copy of "Connecticut Gazette,"published at New London, Conn., in 1812; Speech of Daniel Webster on the compromise Resolutions of 1850, with frank of Mr. Webster on the envelope; Letter from E. K. Kane, addressed to Henry Brooks, Boatswain U. S. Navy, written, Philadelphia, Jan. 20, 1853; Appendix to the Congressional Globe (extra) 1st Session 31st Congress, containing Mr. Clay's speech on his compromise Resolutions; Speech of S. A. Douglass on the measures of "Adjustment," made in the City Hall, Chicago, in 1850; An old shot bag, some flints, smooth stones, an old Indian Pipe and other curiosities.

Judge S. C. Parker, the Biographer, then announced in addition to

his report made in the forenoon, the death of Justin Sherman, of Wakeman, who died Aug. 10th, 1865, at the age of 80 years. He came from Newton, Conn., in 1822, and settled on the farm where he died.

The Choir then sung "Easter Anthem," after which the meeting listened to an able and eloquent address by G. T. Stewart, Esq., entitled "Lessons of the War."

On motion, it was resolved that the Directors be requested to have prepared a catalogue of the books and manuscripts of the Society, and take measures for their care and preservation.

On motion, it was ordered that the first quarterly meeting for this year be held at Greenfield Center, on the second Wednesday of September next. The following are the names of the Committee of arrangements for that meeting: Hon. C. B. Simmons, Hiram Smith, Benoni Wheeler, John McLane, Elias Easter, Jacob Bliss, Robert Arthur, Dean Keefer, S. E. Minges.

On motion of Judge S. C. Parker, the thanks of the Society were returned to the citizens of Norwalk, for their hospitality, to the choir for its excellent music, and to G. T. Stewart, Esq., for his able address, a copy of which was requested for publication.

On motion, adjourned.

CHARLES P. WICKHAM, Sec'y.

QUARTERLY MEETING.

MORNING SESSION.

The first quarterly meeting of the Fire Lands Historical Society for the present year, was held at Greenfield Center, in the Baptist Church, at 10 o'clock A. M., on Wednesday, the 12th inst., Vice President G. H. Woodruff, of Norwich, presiding.

The meeting was opened by prayer by the Rev. John Wheeler, of Greenfield.

The minutes of the last annual meeting were then read and approved, after which the roll of the township Historical Committees was called.

A fine anthem was then sung by the Choir.

A report from the Publication Committee was then read by the Secretary, showing that the sale of about seventy copies of the 7th vol. of the Pioneer would be required to make the edition pay for itself.

The Constitution was then read, and the names of eleven new members were added.

Vice President J. H. Niles exhibited, with remarks, some curious Indian relics found upon his farm in Norwich township.

Judge S. C. Parker exhibited the "National Ægis," a newspaper printed and published at Worcester,, Mass., Oct. 22, 1823, presented to the Society by Mrs. Briggs, and containing an account of the great celebration at the completion of the Erie Canal.

He also exhibited the following relics presented by the heirs of James Cleveland: Dilworth's Arithmetic, printed in 1793, a copy of the "American Preceptor," several copies of the Ohio Coon Catcher, a political news paper of 1844, a copy of the Ship-builder's Manual, a memorandum book kept in 1815.

Judge Parker then presented a "Record of the Federal Dead buried from Libby, Belle Isle, Danville and Camp Lawton Prisons, and at City Point and in the Field before Petersburg and Richmond."

The following relics and curiosities were then presented to the Society by the following named persons:

By Eugene S. Case, a curious stone brought from Indiana by him.

By Leroy W. Brown, an Indian arrow head of flint, with notched

edges, found upon the farm of D. F. Brown, in Peru, Aug. 28, 1866.

By A. Felt, of Greenfield, "The American Revolution, written in scriptural or ancient historical style," printed at Clinton, Ohio, by Smith & McArdle, at office of Ohio Register.

By Mrs. Smith, of Greenfield, who has resided on the *same farm for* 54 *years*, a basket of apples grown on the first tree planted (54 years ago) in that township.

By an unknown member of the Society, an Indian stone war club.

An Indian stone battle-axe found upon the premises of Judge S. C. Parker, in Greenfield, by Cynthia L. Smith, was then exhibited to the meeting.

The venerable President, who had arrived after the opening of the meeting, then made some feeling and very appropriate remarks to the "Pioneers" present.

Judge S. C. Parker then announced the death of Rouse Bly, a member of the Society, who died on the 4th inst., and moved that a committee consisting of Messrs. J. H. Niles, D. H. Pease, and A. D. York, be appointed to prepare a sketch of his life. Carried.

The following named persons who had resided upon the Firelands for fifty years, were then announced as being present: Amos Harkness, Fairfield; Henry Adams, Peru; Anna Robertson, Ridgefield; Wm. McKelvey, Greenfield; Mrs. Judge Parker, Greenfield; John Sowers, Ridgefield; Seba Mather, Greenfield; Lydia Bascom, Greenfield; Rachel Guthrie, Greenfield; Martha Lowther, Greenfield; Frank Reed, Norwalk; P. Benedict, Norwalk; Emily Wilcox, Peru; Lester Smith, Celestia Loveland, N. Haven; Mrs. Smith Greenfield; Samantha Felt, Greenfield.

The following named, who came upon the Firelands forty five years ago, were present: S. C. Parker, Greenfield; John Wheeler, do.; G. H. Woodruff, Norwich; Sally Easton, Peru; Louisa Beers, Greenfield; Levi Platt, do.; Hannah Brown, Peru; Aaron Kellogg, Greenfield; Wyatt Cook, Peru; Louisa Green, do.; Mrs. Jonathan Atherton, Greenfield; Jacob Conklin, Plymouth; Charles Conklin, do.; Lucina Crow, Centerton; Judge Z. Phillips, Berlin; Harlan Simmons, Greenfield; A. Felt, do.

The meeting then took a recess until 1½ o'clock P. M.

AFTERNOON SESSION.

The meeting re-assembled at 1½ o'clock, G. H. Woodruff still presiding.

On motion, Centerton was fixed upon as the place of holding the next Quarterly Meeting, and D. Sweetland, L. Fornwald, A. Gage, R. Crow, F. Wyel, J. Wilcox, G. Sanders, T. Banks and J. Miller, were appointed Committee of Arrangements.

A committee consisting of Gen. F. Sawyer, Capt. F. A. Wildman and Col. C. P. Wickham, of Huron County, and Gen. A. B. Nettleton and Judge S. F. Taylor, of Erie County, was then appointed to prepare a military history of the Firelands, embracing the names, rank and place of residence of every person who entered the U. S. service from the Firelands during any of the wars in which the United States have been engaged, and of those who fell during the struggles, with the names of the battles in which they fell or the hospitals in which they died, with the dates.

The Choir then executed another fine piece of music.

Gen. R. P. Buckland was then introduced to the audience, and delivered a short but excellent address, giving a history of the part the Firelands and Ohio had taken in the different wars of the country.

"America" was then sung by the choir.

On motion, copies of the addresses delivered were requested for publication in the Pioneer.

The thanks of the Society were then unanimously returned to the speakers for their excellent addresses, to the citizens of Greenfield and vicinity, for the liberal arrangements for the meeting made by them and the generous hospitality extended by them to all present, and to the choir for the most excellent music with which they had enlivened the day.

The audience then joined the choir in singing "Old Hundred," after which the benediction was pronounced by Rev. S. C. Parker, and the meeting adjourned.

CHAS. P. WICKHAM, Sec'y.
Sept. 12, 1866.

QUARTERLY MEETING.

MORNING SESSION.

The second quarterly meeting of the Firelands Historical Society for the current year was held at Centerton, on Wednesday, the 12th day of December, 1866, at 12 M. in the Brick Church—Vice President Bemiss in the Chair.

The meeting was opened with feeling and appropriate remarks upon the death of Platt Benedict, the late President, by Vice Presidents Bemiss and Parker.

Prayer was then offered by the Rev. D. M. Conant, of Centerton.

The Choir then sang a most beautiful piece of music.

A most bountiful and luxurious repast of good things having been prepared in the church all present, after the invoking of a blessing by the Rev. Mr. Conant, proceeded to discuss it.

After dinner, the meeting was enlivened by another fine piece of music from the Choir, entitled "The Old Elm Tree."

The Secretary read the minutes of the last Quarterly meeting, which were corrected and adopted.

The Constitution of the Society was then read, and the names of thirteen new members were added.

The following relics were then presented or exhibited by the following named persons respectively:

Exhibited by Mrs. Fannie Smith: Memoir of Rev. J. Badger, an early settler upon the Western Reserve, printed at Hudson, Ohio; also, the 2d volume of a "Plan of Union, or History of the Presbyterian and Congregational Churches of the Western Reserve, with Biographical Sketches of the Early Missionaries," by William S. Kennedy, printed in Hudson.

Exhibited by Judge S. C. Parker, "An Authentic History of the Second War for Independence," printed in 1815.

Presented by the heirs of Capt. Coit, a steel for striking flint, used by him while voyaging around the world.

Presented by Asa Haines, of Norwich, a large collection of flint arrowheads and stone battle-axes.

Presented by B. C. Briggs, of Norwich, the skin of the last wolf but one, caught in Huron County. It was caught in Norwich by Mr. B. in 1840.

Exhibited by the same, a wine glass over one hundred years old, and a large arm chair, of which the spreading antlers of an Elk caught in Wisconsin, composed the arms.

Exhibited by Mr. Nathaniel Mills, a silver buckle over one hundred years old, a razor over one hundred years old, and a hone over one hundred years old.

Presented by E. W. Gilson, Esq., of Norwich, a copy of the Revised Statutes of Ohio, printed in 1831.

Presented by Mrs. Sally O. Gilson, a religious book printed in 1709.

Exhibited by E. W. Gilson, Esq., a small book entitled "Conscience the best friend," printed in 1709.

Mr. Nathaniel Mills, of Norwich, a veteran of 1812, being present, was then elected by an unanimous vote, an honoray member of the Society.

Mr. Mills, Augustus Cook, and William McGee, who were all present at the meeting, all participated in the battle of Fort Erie.

E. W. Gilson, Esq., then exhibited the first Township Record kept in Norwich Township; the first entries were descriptions of the ear marks of the different settlers in the town, and were dated in 1827. Augustus Cook, one of the veterans of Fort Erie, above mentioned, was the first Township Clerk and made the entries.

Vice President Niles then read a biographical sketch of John Dillingham, who formerly lived near Cleveland, and early settled near Pipe Creek, written by Amos Felt, of Greenfield.

The Secretary then read a letter from Charles Whittlesey, Esq., of Cleveland, Ohio, concerning the formation of a Historical Society for the Western Reserve, after which Judge Parker offered the following resolution, which, on motion, was adopted.

Resolved, That we approve of the of the project being agitated, of forming a Historical Society for the Western Reserve, and recommend that a meeting be held in the City of Cleveland, at an early day, for that purpose; the said organization, however, not to in any manner supersede or do away with the Firelands Historical Society.

Moved by the Secretary, and seconded, that the Rev. Alfred Newton, of Norwalk, be invited to prepare and deliver at some future time before the Society, an address commemorative of the life of Platt Benedict, Esq., the late President of the Society, and of the history of Norwalk. Adopted.

The following preamble and resolution were then offered by Vice President Bemiss, and unanimously adopted.

WHEREAS, It has pleased Almighty God to remove from us by death, our venerable President, Platt Benedict, one of the first and most energetic and active members of our Society, therefore, be it

Resolved, That we feel deeply sensible of our loss and of the increased responsibility resting upon us, that we humbly submit to this dispensation of Divine Providence, and resolve, Divine Grace assisting us, to be more faithful in our efforts to sustain our Society.

Judge Parish then moved the adoption by the Society, of its regretful acquiescence in the act of Divine Providence in removing the late Judge Ebenezer Lane from our midst. Carried.

On motion, the following named persons were then appointed by the President a committee to fix upon the place for holding the next meeting; D. H. Pease, F. D. Parish, and C. P. Wickham.

The Committee selected East Townsend as the place for holding the meeting on the second Wednesday in March next, and appointed the following named gentlemen as Committee of Arrangements: Rev. P. B. Stroupe, R. C. Dean, E. W. Kinney, W. A. Pierce, Dr. E. Martin, Walter Petteys, James Arnold and M. Denman.

The Choir again sang a sweet song.

Judge Parish then moved that the thanks of the Society be tendered to the Committee of Arrangements and the people of Norwich for their cordial reception and fine entertainment this day given the Society, and

to the Choir for their most excellent music so cheerfully furnished.

The Biographer then announced the death of Mrs. Abigail Greenfield, Major S. Fish, and Mrs. Holladay, of Ridgefield, members of the Society.

One of the largest and most interesting meetings ever held by the Society then, with the singing of "Old Hundred," and the invoking of the benediction by the Rev. Mr. Conant, adjourned.

CHAS. P. WICKHAM, Sec'y.

QUARTERLY MEETING.

The Third Quarterly Meeting of the Firelands Historical Society, for the current year, was held in the Methodist Church, at Townsend Center, on Wednesday, the 13th day of March, 1867, commencing at half past one o'clock P. M.

On the arrival of the cars at Townsend Station, teams were in readiness to convey the Pioneers to the place of meeting, where a goodly number of people had already collected. A bountiful repast had been prepared by the ladies of Townsend, and was served up in the School House adjoining the Church; and hungry as were the Pioneers and visitors who sat down to partake of the dinner, with coffee and tea smoking hot, they were not equal to the occasion, though each did himself ample justice.

Immediately after the meal, the meeting was called to order by Vice President E. Bemiss, who requested the Rev. P. B. Stroup to offer the opening prayer, which request was appropriately complied with.

The minutes of the previous meeting were then read, and after a slight correction in the name of Major Smith, were duly approved.

On motion of Judge Parish, of Sandusky, which was carried, the calling of the roll of Township Committees was dispensed with.

The Constitution, as amended at the last annual meeting, was then read, and the names of thirty-two new members were added to the list.

A communication from the Historical Society of Pennsylvania, at Philadelphia, was then read, acknowledging the receipt of vols. 1 to 7 inclusive, of *The Firelands Pioneer*, and returning thanks for the donation; also a letter from the Corresponding Secretary of the Maumee Valley Association, covering certain resolutions adopted by said Association at its last meeting, which are subjoined below; the letter also informed this Society that a Committee had been named by said Association to attend the next meeting of this Society, and present the congratulations of said Association, and invite a reciprocation of visits between the Societies.

On motion of Judge Parish, the Society accepted the above invitation for the interchange of visits, and as the Committee named by the Maumee Association was not present at this meeting, no further action was taken upon the subject.

The Resolutions of the Maumee Association above referred to, are as follows, to-wit:

"At the semi-annual meeting of the
"Maumee Pioneer Association,
"held at Perrysburg, in Wood
"County, on the 22d of February,
"1867, on motion of W. V. Way,
"the following resolutions were
"adopted:

"1st. *Resolved*, That the gift to "this Association by the Firelands "Pioneer and Historical Society, of "eight volumes of its transactions, "is gratefully acknowledged, and "that we hereby tender it the thanks "of this Association.

"2d. *Resolved*, That the Corres- "ponding Secretary of this Associa- "tion be directed to present to the

"Firelands Pioneer and Historical "Society a copy of the transactions "of this Association from time to "time, when the same shall be print- "ed, and that he forward said Society "a copy of the above resolutions."

Remarks were then made by Judge Parish and Vice President Bemiss, concerning the oganization. object and progress of kindred associations.

The presentation of relics being next in order, the following were handed in, viz:

By Mrs. Mary Tillinghast, of Townsend, the "Old Boone Family Bible," 146 years old, formerly owned by her great-grandfather, in 1721; also, by the same, a Stand 76 years old, and formerly owned by her mother in 1791. By Abial Farley, a Keepsake, being a large worked pocket-book, which had been handed down through four generations past; age unknown. By H. T. Sherwood, of Townsend,a curiously wrought stone semi-circular in shape, and about five inches, round, pointed at the ends, and a hole through the middle; the above was plowed up in March, 1866, one mile north of the center of Townsend. By F. D. Read, of Norwalk, the stuffed skin of a Wild Cat which was killed in Ottawa County, sometime in February last; the animal measured about three feet in length, and about twenty inches or two feet in circumference around the body; the above was exhibited as a specimen of those formerly infesting this section of the country. Mr. Read related several instances of the depredations of this animal and the wolf, who were formerly the terror of the inhabitants of the Firelands. By F. A. Breckenridge, of Townsend, formerly Lieut. Co. "C" 123d O. V. I., a writ of capias ad satisfaciendum issued by Gabriel Jones, Clerk of Court of Hampshire County, Virginia, in the year 1760, and in the thirty-fourth year of the reign of King George II, against one Peter Steinberger, at the suit of one John Frazier; this writ was found by Lieut. Breckenridge in the Court House at Romney, West Virginia, sometime in March, 1863.

The Committee of Arrangements having been unable to procure the attendance of some person to deliver an addresss upon the occasion, remarks were then made by the following Pioneers present, on early Pioneer life, viz: F. D. Read, Judge Parish, George Tillinghast, James Arnold, E. O. Merry, Martin Denman, Amasa Finch, O. H. Van Tassel and Vice President Bemiss. These short exercises were very interesting to all present.

The Biographer not being present, the Secretary then announced the death of another Pioneer, since the last meeting, viz: Benjamin Benson, who was residing in Norwalk at the time of his death, but who had been for many years previously, a resident of Towsend; he first came upon the Firelands in 1819, and settled in Clarksfield. His death occurred January 22, 1867, at the age of 78 years.

On motion of Judge Parish, the Society voted to leave the question of the next publication of the *Pioneer* with the Committee on Publication, they to take such action in the matter as they may deem proper.

The following named gentlemen were then appointed a Committee of Arrangements to prepare for the annual meeting at Norwalk, in June, next, to-wit: O. Jenney, F. A. Wildman, L. Reding, John Miller, Isaac Underhill, D. A. Baker, and George R. Walker.

On motion of the Secretary, a vote of thanks was given to the Committee of Arrangements, the Ladies of Townsend, and the citizens generally, for the very bountiful and hos-

pitable entertainment given to the Society on this occassion.

The meeting was well attended, notwithstanding the very bad concition of the roads, which were almost impassable, as they often are at this season of the year, the Methodist Church being filled to overflowing, and holding three or four hundred persons.

Very appropriate and touching remarks were made by Vice President BEMISS, at the close of the exercises above referred to.

On motion, adjourned to meet in Norwalk, on the 2d Wednesday of June next.

The audience then joined in singing the Doxology in the tune of Old Hundred, when a benediction was pronounced by the Rev. P. B. STROUP, and so ended a very pleasant re-union of the Pioneers.

E. BEMISS, V. President.

W. C. ALLEN, Sec'y pro tem.

MAJOR GLADWYN AND THE INDIAN GIRL.

ROMANCE IN HISTORY.

BY COL. CHARLES WHITTLESEY.

In the histories which treat of the conspiracy of Pontiac (or Pondeack) and his attack upon the Post of Detroit there is a touching story of the fidelity of a young Indian girl, supposed to be an Ojibway.

Major Gladwyn in a report to General Amherst, dated at Detroit, May 14th, 1763, writes thus: "On the seventh, he (Pontiac) came, but I was luckily informed the night before, that he was coming to surprise us." In the Newport, R. I. Mercury, of August 22d, 1763, there is a letter from Detroit, dated July 9th, in which it is stated: that "the Ottawas and some of the Chippeways to the number of 300 came to the Fort, and held a treaty with Major Gladwyn, who had information the evening before, that the Indians were determined to fall upon and murder the officers and soldiers in council; while they were to have parties at the different merchant houses, to treat them in the same manner &c."

In none of the correspondence of that day, which I have seen, nor in any Newspaper or Magazine, is there any reference to the Ojibway girl. Upon what authority is she brought upon the historical record?

Nothing is more romantic than real history, when written in a graphic style, portraying what has occurred in the vivid colors of nature.

But the temptation to pass the

boundary of unadorned facts is at times very powerful. To yield to such temptations, in a single instance, may invalidate the authority of an entire history. It is only in view of their integrity, that historical writings rise above the level of romance.

The Pontiac "manuscript," written by a French Priest who was at the Fort at the time, expressly contradicts the intervention of a squaw, and affirms that "the plot was disclosed to Gladwyn by a man of the Ottaway tribe." It states moreover that an Ojibway girl was charged with treachery by Pontiac, who caused her to be seized and taken to the Fort in order to obtain proof against her, but procured none.

Mr. Parkman, (conspiracy, page 591) says, "this diary leaves us in the dark as to the treatment which the girl received." A tradition among the Canadians that she received a beating with a bat, is the nearest evidence we have of her conviction.

Jonathan Carver was not in the North West during the stirring times of 1763, nor until six years afterwards. His information respecting the events of the conspiracy, was derived entirely from Indians and Canadian French who had become Indian, by their associations. Such has been the experience of two hundred years.

The savage easily induces white men to assimilate to his condition, his thoughts, and his manners; but the influence of the white is soon lost upon the Indian. Whatever color may be given to the adventure of the young Ojibway by Carver, must be received as an Indian tradition which is for historical purposes equivalent to a myth.

The statement of Henry Conner to Mr. Schoolcraft partakes of the same character, going so much beyond other stories in relation to her as to terminate her life, in a manner quite in keeping with the remainder of the narrative. She was boiled to death, as he affirms, in a sugar kettle, into which she had fallen while intoxicated.

Peltier's statement to Gen'l Cass, simply refers to the punishment of a woman by Pontiac, for the crime or supposed crime of betraying him to the English. Peltier was seventeen years of age at the date of the siege: was absent most of the time; and his evidence was not taken till the year 1824, sixty one years after the event.

St. Aubin was *fifteen* years of age; Gouin, *eleven;* Narent, *twenty two;* and Mrs. Meloche a child. In 1821, Thompson Maxwell dictated to Mr. Trowbridge, at the request of Gen'l Cass his recollections of the siege.

He claims to have been a private in Capt. Stark's (afterward General Starks of Vermont,) company of Major Rogers' Battalion of Rangers. Maxwell was an ignorant man and spoke from memory without memoranda, of what occurred fifty-eight years previous. He has entirely confounded dates, not only of months but of years.

He avers that the attack was made upon the Fort in August, and that Major Rogers went with his command to Mackinaw the same year; he arrived at Detroit. According to him Rogers and the Rangers made an expedition to Lake Michigan in 1762.

The Major in his journal says that he could not reach Mackinaw, and returned in the winter of 1761-2, to Philadelphia by way of Sandusky, Tuscarawas, and Fort Pitt. Mr. Parkman, referring to the Maxwell manuscript, remarks that "it has all the air of a made up narrative, from hearsay, embellished largely from imagination."

It is however to Maxwell, that we owe all the historical interest which

the Ojibway girl has received. He says: "among the squaws who were in the habit of entering the Fort, to trade was one of a very prepossessing appearance who brought some moccasins, worked in a peculiar manner. Major Gladwyn had noticed them, and had given her an Elk skin to make him a pair. The day before the intended council, she brought in the moccasins, ready made, together with the remaining parts of the Elk skin.

The Major was so highly pleased with the manner in which she had executed the work, that he requested her to take the remainder and make a pair for a friend. She received the skin and withdrew, but did not leave the Fort. About sunset the officer of the day, agreeably to a standing order, was clearing the Fort of all strangers, and encountered this squaw who seemed reluctant to go.

Upon being asked the reason, she offered him the Elk skin which he refused, knowing whose it was, but conducted her to Major Gladwyn, who repeated the question why she loitered in the Fort.

She handed him the Elk skin, and then expressed her willingness to go. This occasioned some surprise, and he insisted on knowing the reason for her not taking it. She at last after much reluctance replied, that she did not wish to take it because she could not bring it back. Suspicion being awakened, she was pressed to say why she could not bring it back. After obtaining a promise of the Major that he would not disclose the means by which he procured this information, she told him that Pontiac had formed a plan to take the Fort.

The thirty-six chiefs who were to attend the council, had their guns cut short, so that they could be concealed under their blankets, and after entering the Fort, a signal would be made him; when they were to kill the Major, and the officers at the council table, rush to the gate and let in their fellows.

Upon this statement, the statements of Mr. Schoolcraft and Gen. Cass were based. Henry Conner, and Jonathan Carver, derived it from Indian and Canadian tradition, the same as Maxwell. Like all poetical licenses, the story became more amplified, as well as more touching by repetition.

In the first edition of the "*Annals of the West*," by Mr. Perkins, the event is noticed in nearly the same terms as it is by Bancroft. Both of these astute historians, failed to perceive in the vague traditions of a past age, that air of truth and reality, which it has since assumed.

I now quote from various publications, to show how much force there is in mere reiteration: how the picture of the Ojibway girl became more brilliant and more attractive, as it passed from the hands of the successive artists. "Luckily Gladwyn, had been informed of his coming, and took such precautions that the interview passed off without results."—*Bancroft, 1st Edition.*

"An Indian woman who had been employed by the commander, to make moccasins out of a curiously wrought Elk skin, betrayed the conspirators."—*Annals of the West, 1st Edition.*"

"In the village lived an Ojibway girl of great beauty, who was attached to the commandant, Major Gladwyn. On the sixth of May, she came to the Fort to bring a pair of Elk skin moccasins she had made for him. Her face was sad, and she lingered long in the street. Her demeanor attracted notice, and she was brought to Gladwyn. She was long silent, but at length she revealed the plan of the morrow."—*Annals of the West, 2d Edition*, 1865.

"Catharine, a beautiful Ojibway girl, who dwelt in the Potawatomie village, had become much attached to Major Gladwyn, and the day before the intended massacre, she brought to the Fort a pair of moccasins she had wrought for him. Improving the opportunity thus afforded, she revealed to him the impending danger."

This is Mr. Sheldan's notice of the girl, (in his excellent history of Michigan,) who has assumed the name of Catharine, and who has become the *chere amie* of the Commandant. But somewhat doubting the value of his authority, Mr. Sheldan, as an accomplished historian, adds another more direct piece of information on the subject.

"The same afternoon William Tucker, a soldier of the Fort, who had been captured in his boyhood, and adopted into the tribe of his captors; received from his Indian sister, intimations of the designs of Pontiac; which he communicated to Gladwyn. Strict secresy was enjoined on Tucker, by the commander."

It may have been this sister, whom Pontiac, is supposed to have punished. Whoever she was, it has not been her fortune to be recognized elsewhere, as one of the saviors of the British garrison. Neither has the Ottawa Indian, to whom the Jesuit father, in his manuscript; gave the credit of disclosing Pontiac's crafty designs, received the slightest credit for his agency in that affair.

There are intimations of other persons, probably Canadian French, who conveyed news of the conspiracy to Major Gladwyn, from time to time, whose names have not garnished the historical page. He does not appear to have been well versed in the Indian character, especially in its unfathomable duplicity, but as a commander it was his duty to procure information, and he doubtless had emmissaries in the Indian camp. His views and his plans were the result of well authenticated facts, derived from numerous sources, not based upon the relation of a single squaw.

Monsieur Gouin, states, that he himself cautioned the commander against a surprise, the night previous. I now come to the later account of Mr. Parkman in the "Conspiracy of Pontiac." As this is a work of great research it is more surprising, that so much stress is laid upon the services of an Ojibway girl, of whom none of the English officials have spoken. Had she survived the war, and had they been so greatly indebted to her, she would certainly have been an object of attention.

We hear nothing of her in Major Rogers' narrative of what he saw at Detroit. As commandants and Indian agents, this heroic woman would have received from Gladwyn, Rogers, or the subsequent officers, presents and other tokens of their obligations, if they had been so conspicuous. Mr. Parkman's charming style excels that of all those who have treated of the romantic events of the conspiracy. He has demonstrated that there is nothing more beautiful in fiction than there is in real life.

In his hands, the Ojibway squaw, seen dimly through the haze of the ages, and tradition, is invested with new and more delicate charms. She is placed before mankind like Pocahontas as a lovely vision destined to be perpetuated in history.

"In the Potawotamie village lived an Ojibway girl, who if there be truth in tradition, could boast a larger share of beauty than is common in the wigwam. She had attracted the eye of Gladwyn. He had formed a connexion with her, and she had become much attached to him.

On the afternoon of the sixth,

Catharine came to the Fort, and repaired to Gladwyn's quarters, bringing a pair of Elk skin moccasins, ornamented with porcupine work, which he had requested her to make. There was something unusual in her look and manner. Her face was sad and downcast. She said little and soon left the room: but the sentinel at the door saw her lingering at the street corner, though the hour for closing the gates was nearly come.

At length she attracted the attention of Gladwyn himself, and calling her to him, he pressed her to disclose what was weighing on her mind. Still she remained for a long time silent, and it was only after much urgency and many promises not to betray her that she revealed her momentous secret."

There is now scarcely a doubt, but the Ojibway girl is a myth. If her existence and her agency in warning the garrison against the wiles of Pontiac, could be maintained, the other embellishments might be passed over. They would be well in a poem upon the conspiracy, such a one as we may yet have, whenever a first rate genius shall seek for a first rate subject. But whether an entire invention of later times deserves a place in sober history, is quite another thing from the allowable license of poetry.

A FEW FACTS AND SUGGESTIONS REGARDING THE SOUTH BOUNDARY OF THE WESTERN RESERVE.

BY S. R. HARRIS.

In the following hasty sketch some facts will necessarily be alluded to that are trite and familiar as the alphabet, no doubt, to most, if not all the readers of the PIONEER, but if the writer can contribute to perpetuate or rescue from oblivion, anything regarding the southern boundary of the Western Reserve, or make any suggestion that will lead to that desirable end, the object of this sketch will be attained.

There is a romantic interest in the works performed and the monuments left by those sturdy pioneers, who, leaving the comforts of home and friends in the east, braved the seasons, forests, swamps, savages, everything, to open the way and lay the foundations for their children and posterity to enjoy the labors of their fathers in the untrodden wilderness of the west.

Years ago the writer of this sketch became acquainted with the territory along that portion of the south line of the Western Reserve which forms the north boundary of Craw-

ford, the county of his residence, by having as an amateur hunter traversed it, with dog and gun, for quail, in the winter when swamps and streams were frozen so he could pass on the ice and over frozen marshes from field to field on the higher neighboring grounds. In the Spring, with his long hunting boots, his Jo. Manton gun and well trained setter, he has waded the marshes and brought to bag his four dozen snipes per day, thinking if a Long Island sportsman knew of such locality, he would make his annual pilgrimage to the place and call it a Hunter's Paradise.

In pursuit of turkeys and pigeons he has succeeded in making his way, in company with some clever natives of the vicinity, into the midst of what they call the Pigeon Roost, an almost impenetrable swamp and thicket of alders, "pucker brush" willows and larger timber, to which the pigeons in certain seasons resort in numberless flocks to roost, and where hunters may, by making nocturnal excursions in the proper season, and being careful not to venture without a faithful native as a guide, slaughter those unsuspecting birds by the cart load. Formerly this was a resort for deer and turkeys, but the turkeys have become scarce of later years and the antlered tenant of the forest has been ejected forever.

The writer has learned that thro' these wild thickets and marshes the Surveyor of the Connecticut Company, and subsequently the Deputy United States Surveyor, with their corps of assistants, succeeded in passing, while measuring the Connecticut line.

An ejectment case, in which the writer was counsel for one of the parties, led to an inquiry regarding that line so far as it relates to Crawford County.

The premises in dispute bordered on the south line of Huron County, and my client's title depended on, and his boundary could only be ascertained by, reference to some monuments mentioned in the survey of the Connecticut line; but at first the nature of that line was to me a sealed book. I set about making inquiry and learned the historical facts so familiar to your readers, as I have anticipated: That in 1620 the first patent was granted by James I of England, to the Duke of Lenox, the Earl of Warwick, and forty others, under the title of the Council established at Plymouth "for the ruling and governing of New England in America," and embraced all the country between latitude 40° and 48° north, extending from sea to sea within these limits; that in March, 1631, the patent of Connecticut was granted and signed by Robert, Earl of Warwick, President of the Council of Plymouth, Lord Say and Seal, Lord Brooke, Sir Richard Saltonstall and associates, "embaacing all that part of New England in America extending in breadth 120 miles as the coast lieth, from the Narraganset river toward Virginia, and in longitude from the Western Ocean to the South Sea," meaning thereby from the Atlantic to the Pacific Ocean. Again, that in 1662 Charles II granted to the Colony of Connecticut a charter to all the lands between the 41st and 42d parallels of north latitude, and from Providence plantations on the east to the Pacific on the west, with the exception of so much of said territory as was embraced by New York and Pennsylvania Colonies. How far these several charters and grants were compatible with each other, I did not attempt to investigate.

It is apparent that these charters were prior in point of time to the period when Captain Cook made his explorations by sea, and reported to the English Government the degree of longitude of the eastern coast of

the Pacific Ocean. It is furthermore evident that both grantors and grantees were in blissful ignorance of the magnitude of the conveyances.

I further ascertained that after the confederation of the States, Connecticut ceded to the General Government all that part of said territory west of Pennsylvania and New York, excepting and reserving what land was embraced between the 41st and 42d parallels of north latitude, beginning at the western line of the State of Pennsylvania, and extending 120 miles west between those parallels of latitude. Hence the name of "Connecticut Western Reserve."

I furthermore found, incidentally, that the five westernmost ranges of this reservation were donated to certain citizens of Connecticut who had suffered by British torches during the revolutionary war, at New London, Fairfield and Norwalk.—Hence the name of that portion of the Reserve called "Fire Lands."

I further learned that after repeated solicitations and importunities on the part of Connecticut or the Connecticut Company to the General Government, for a survey and measurement of the south and west boundaries of the Reserve, and after long and vexatious delays on the part of the Government, the Company finally employed Seth Pease, of Danbury, Connecticut, who, with his corps of axemen, chainmen, and other assistants, and perhaps some venturers and emigrants, in the Spring of 1806, departed from Danbury for the far off land of the setting sun.

Simeon Hoyt, who was living a venerable and intelligent old man, at Birmingham, Ohio, but three years ago, was one of this party. He may be living yet. If he is, God bless him in his old age, is the prayer of the writer.

The south line of the Reserve was accordingly measured by Mr. Pease, and his stakes and monuments were set and marked at the end of each mile, as he progressed westward. I have endeavored to obtain access to the field notes of Pease, but could never find them. Would it not be a matter of interest to your Society and the public to procure and publish them? They are accurate, or nearly so, in so far as they describe the country and distances actually measured. It appears that he followed the true line in his progress from east to west, but unfortunately through some mistake as to the locality of the west line of Pennsylvania, he started about two miles west of the State line, and as a consequence carried his measurement that distance too far west, or beyond the east line of what is now Seneca and Sandusky Counties. The mistake was subsequently discovered by Mr. Pease, on his return to Connecticut, and a new measurement had to be made.

Soon after, therefore, the General Government directed Maxfield Ludlow, one of the United States Deputy Surveyors, and who had just finished surveying the townships in ranges 20, 21, &c., immediately south of the Reserve, and sub-divided said townships into sections, to proceed to re-measure the south line of the Reserve. He accordingly proceeded to do so in, or about, the year 1808. He made the proper start from the Pennsylvania line, and in due time struck and thenceforward followed Pease's line, and found Pease's monuments along the route in their proper positions, or nearly so, with the exception of the consequences resulting from his error in the starting point.

I subjoin the field notes of Ludlow so far as his line relates to the north boundary of Township 22:

West.	Commenced the 113th mile west
chs. lks. 9 87	Mr. Pease's 111th mile post.
28 14	Corner of Towns. 22 and 23, ranges 19 and 20, U. S.
80 00	Set a post from which a blk. oak 18 ins. diam. bears N. 40, W. 32 lks., and a w. oak 22 ins. diam., bears S. 12, W. 44 links distant. Very level; w. oak and hickory land.
West.	Commenced the 114th mile west
7 14	Corner of Fire Lands; a line north.
11 86	Mr. Pease's 112th mile post.
20 00	Enter a wet prairie.
21 50	Crossed it; principally south of the line, and rise a bank.
23 50	Enter a wonderful large wet prairie.
27 50	Post, corner of 1 and 2, U. S.
80 00	Set a post in said prairie. Level land; w. oak and hickory, except the prairie.
West.	Commenced the 115th mile in said prairie.
80 00	Set a post in said prairie.
West.	Commenced the 116th mile west in said prairie.
14 10	Mr. Pease's 113th mile post.
65 00	Crossed the prairie part; enter willows.
80 00	Set a post in said swamp; a willow 4 ins. diam. bears N. 7, E. 4 lks., and a willow 3 ins diam. bears S. 35 E. 10 links distant. Swamp and prairie.
West.	Commenced the 117th mile west, in a swamp.
9 95	Mr. Pease's 115th mile post.
80 00	Crossed the willows and set a post in a large wet prairie. We here are in danger of our lives; water runs N. E.
West.	Commenced the 118th mile west, in a prairie.
9 95	Mr. Pease's 116th mile post.
80 00	*Set a post, from which a hickory, 10 ins. diam., bears S. 17 E. 10 lks.; and a maple, 10 ins. diam., bears N. 7 W. 20 links distant. I have traveled the woods for seven years, but never saw so hideous a place as this.
West.	Commenced the 119th mile west in said swamp.
10 00	Enter dry land.
15 00	Mr. Pease's 117 mile post.
22 63	Corner of Towns. 18 and 22, ranges 20, 21, U. S.
80 00	Set a post, from which a w. oak, 30 ins. diam., bears N. 13 E. 34 lks.; and a hickory, 8 ins. diam., bears S. 10 W. 23 links distant. Level land; w. oak and hickory.

The portion of Ludlow's field notes above given, was obtained some ten years ago in the office of Secretary of State. I endeavored to get access to the whole work in December 1864, to use in said ejectment case, but they could not be found, although thorough search was made. I then applied to the General Land Office at Washington, for a certified copy of the field notes

*It is evident that in passing to this post from the east, he crossed the point of a wooded island and set the post immediately in the west side of it. This point is the one on which Rufus Page's house now stands. He next crossed Honey Creek bottom, which was indeed hideous. The Creek is now confined at ordinary stages of water within a channel made by the excavation of a deep ditch, by the proprietors of adjacent lands. Until a few years ago it had no channel, but spread all over the prairie, rendering it almost impassible.

which it was supposed should have properly been returned by Ludlow to that office, but the following response was received:

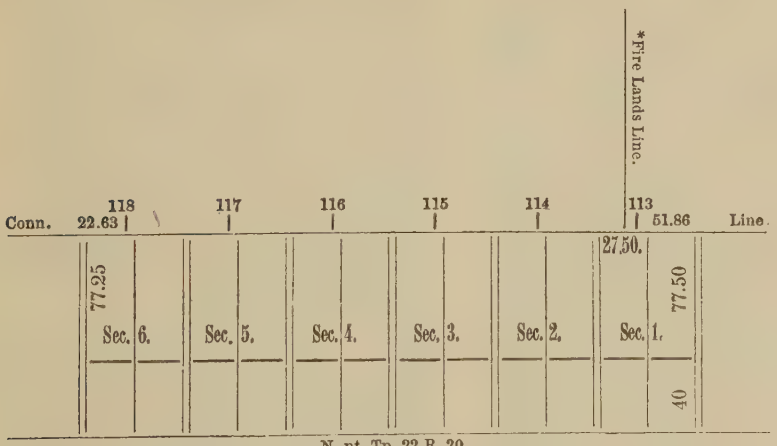
"In reply to your inquiry, I have to inform you that thorough search has been made for Ludlow's survey of the south boundary of the Connecticut Reserve, made in 1808, and no evidence can be found that it was ever received at this office. You may perhaps find it at Columbus. Yours, &c.,

J. M. EDMUNDS."

Having disappeared from Columbus, it may be possible that they have been taken to some county bordering on the Connecticut line, and interested in the same. If so, as friends of your Society, would it not be a public benefit for the possessors to furnish a copy of the entire work of Ludlow on that line, for publication in some future number of the PIONEER, and thus perpetuate what may be of incalculable advantage to future generations, to aid in fixing the position of land monuments bordering on that line; because reference is made in those field notes to all the monuments of original section corners bordering on that line and south of it, which were surveyed before 1808.

It appears that few or none of the monuments of either Pease or Ludlow can now be found. I have not learned that special search has been made for them of late years by county surveyors. In December, 1864, I learned from Eri Mesnard, Esq., County Surveyor of Huron County, that he had made some surveys along the line for some land proprietors in New Haven and Richmond Townships, but that he had not seen any of the monuments set by Pease or Ludlow. If Ludlow's field notes are taken and special search be made, the position of some of his monuments can surely be ascertained.

Take for example the following sketch of the north tier of sections in Township 22, Range 20:



*This, of course, is one of the interior lines of the Fire Lands, and Ludlow found the corner at its south terminus, 7 chains and 14 links west of the 113th mile post.

The field notes of Ludlow's survey of Township 22, returned to the General Land Office, make allusions to the Connecticut line whenever he closes a section line on it. For instance, his notes of the line between sections 1 and 2, commencing at the south section corner, run as follows:

North. chs. lks.	
	Between sections 1 and 2.
26 00	A water course, 8 lks. wide, N. W.
40 00	Set qr. sec. post, from which an elm, 16 in. diam., bears N. 55, W. 11 lks.: and a dogwood, 8 ins. diam., bears S. 53, E. 12 links distant.
69 50	A water course, descends N. E.
78 50	A water course, 8 links wide, west.
99 50	Enter a swampy prairie.
116 50	Intersected the Connecticut line in said prairie; no tree. This prairie generally extends one mile north of the Connecticut line. Second rate land, except the prairie; oak, ash, elm and sugar.

In the same manner does Ludlow refer to the Connecticut line whenever any of his north-and-south lines intersect it.

To understand the unusual length of the north-and-south section lines in the tier of sections aforesaid, it may be well to state, by way of digression, that the north tier of sections in township 22 are fractional, as they must necessarily be when bounded on one side by a reservation. The fractions are carried into the northern tier of half sections and are so largely in excess that the north half of section one, for example, contains 615 20-100 acres, whereas an integral half section in the same township contains 320 acres. But to return: I desire to make a suggestion as to the method by which Ludlow's mile posts, or a portion of them, may be found or their position ascertained, and to suggest that if the land owners along the line, or the county authorities attached sufficient importance to the subject to act upon it, and employ a surveyor for that purpose, and put him in possession of such field notes of the original surveys to which I have referred, as can now be found, and other available information, such surveyor could restore the measurements of Ludlow and mark the spots of his mile posts, or most of them, with accuracy.

Suppose, for instance, it were required to find Ludlow's 113th mile post or determine its position, if the stake cannot be found. By reference to the field notes it will be seen that the north-west corner of Township 22 is 28 chains and 14 links west of the 112th mile post. That township corner is established, witnessed and undisputed. It will be further seen that the 113th mile post is 51 chains and 86 links west of the township corner, and 27 chains and 50 links east of the corner between sections 1 and 2. Thus are furnished several mounments in one connection, some of which are still found, to aid in finding the position of the mile post referred to.

Again, in regard to the 116th mile post: It was set in the Pigeon Roost above described, because Ludlow's description of the route is correct as to the locallity which he calls a willow swamp. His field notes show the distance of the Willow Swamp from the north-east cor-

ner of the township, which is correct in fact. He also gives the distance of the Willows from the corner post of sections 1 and 2, which is substantially correct in fact. He marks two willows as witness trees to the 116th mile post, and gives their size, distance and bearings from the post. That willow swamp being still in its primeval state, would, with the other aids mentioned, all together enable a surveyor at this time to locate the mile post with accuracy.

By using the found monuments to fix the positions of the lost ones, by adjusting the chain to a length which would re-measure Ludlow's distances, and by careful work, no doubt all the missing posts could be accurately re-established.

The utility of those monuments cannot, perhaps, be better illustrated than by giving, as a single example, a sketch of the ejectment case before alluded to, and showing the important part one of them performed in determining the case.

My client, the defendant in the case, was an old settler, having emigrated to Crawford County at a very early day, and lived on the same tract over thirty years.

The controversy arose in regard to the boundary line between the north-east and north-west quarters of section six. It so happened that the original corners of the section could not be found, only on the west side, which was of no advantage to them; nor could the surveyor, who was called upon to settle that and some other lines in the same connection, find any of the section corners on the north side of the township, except those at the corners of the township. He therefore presumed that the lines bounding the north sides of the sections were made, or intended to be made, integral by the original survey; that is, each section line should be 80 chains, or 320 rods long. He further found by measurement that there was a deficiency of land. Under the system by which the townships south of the Reserve were originally subdivided into sections, the Deputy United States Surveyor commenced in the south-east corner of the township, completing the sections, making them integral, and progressed north and west and finally closed his last half sections and carried the fractions all into the last quarter sections on the north and west sides of the township. This makes the north-west quarter of section six doubly fractional by the original survey.

Inasmuch as the section corners aforesaid were lost, the County Surveyor, with considerable plausibility, commenced at the north-east corner of the township and measured west, on the Connecticut line, which is the north boundary of the sections in question, planting section and half section corners at integral distances apart, allowing a full mile to each section, until he came to the north-east corner of section six, and he then measured 160 rods west of the last section corner and planted the quarter post between the north-east and north-west quarters of section six, which threw the quarter section corner many rods west of Ludlow's 118th mile post, and cut off more than 50 acres from the east side of the defendant's farm. The surveyor, who by the way, is a good workman and an eminent mathematician, had no knowledge of Ludlow's monuments, or of any of his work on the Connecticut line.

When the action of ejectment came to trial, by the production of Ludlow's survey and field notes it was shown that the 118th mile post, on the Connecticut line, was 22 chains 63 links east of the original township corner, and that the position for the quarter post of section six was even east of that point, thus

setting aside the survey which would have taken a large portion of defendant's farm.

As a further protection to defendant the figures near the east end of so much of Ludlow's line as forms the north boundary of the township in question became very important, because they indicate the width of section number one, according to the original survey.

Referring again to the sketch above given and to Ludlow's notes, it will be seen that the 113th mile post was set 51 chains 86 links west of the north-east corner of section 1, (being the township corner,) and 27 chains 50 links east of the section corner between sections 1 and 2. Add these two distances and the width of the north side of section 1 is shown to be 79 chains 36 links, and shows the north line of that section to be fractional and 64 links short of the integral distance of 80 chains, which was apportioned to the section line by the work of the County Surveyor in question, and which of itself destroys the foundation of the survey that so seriously affected the defendant. Again, presuming the remainder of the north tier of sections bordering on Ludlow's line to be equally fractional and deficient, the error of allowing integral distances, as the County Surveyor did, and ignoring the deficiency of nearly 2½ rods to each section, carried his corners by the time he got to the quarter post on the north side of section six more than 14 rods too far west, and would take a fearful strip of land from the unfortunate owner of the north-west quarter of section six. That disastrous result was prevented by the discovery of Ludlow's field notes of the Connecticut line, the monuments aforesaid, and the proof of their position in reference to the section corners to which they refer, and the defendant remained, and recently died, in possession of all his farm.

This case is mentioned only for the purpose of showing how important the measurement of the south line of the Western Reserve and the monuments planted along the same have proved in a single instance, on but a small portion of that line, nearly fifty years after the work was done.

I find that this communication is entering more deeply into details and growing longer than originally intended, and in closing I can only repeat that the sole object of this sketch is to throw what little light I can on that portion of the line now becoming almost traditional, which has come under my own notice, hoping that this imperfect fragment, written in haste between professional labors, may direct further attention to the subject, so that some future number of the PIONEER may be enabled to publish to the world the entire work of Maxfield Ludlow, in his survey of the south boundary of the Western Reserve, and that whatever monuments can be found, be carefully perpetuated and the missing ones ascertained and marked in a durable manner, before the march of Father Time shall tread them into oblivion.

BUCYRUS, March 26, 1867.

JOHN B. FLEMMOND.

BY FRANCIS GRAHAM.

The lapse of time has been so great since my first acquaintance with the subject of this sketch, that many dates and circumstances cannot be given with precision. I am satisfied that no person can retain narrations made by others with as much accuracy, for as great length of time as matters in which he has been more personally interested.

I became acquainted with John Battis Flemmond,* (which was his full name,) in December 1815, on my arrival at Huron. Mr. Flemmond was born in the city of Montreal, Lower Canada, about the year 1770. His parents were French and in quite limited circumstances. His father for many years kept what John called a "Hucksters Shop," (a small provision and grocery establishment I suppose) the proceeds of which about supported the family.

Montreal, at that time and for many years after, was a great resort for Indians, who came there to dispose of their furs and obtain necessaries. John's father, speaking two or three tongues, got his share of their trade and John, himself, thus learned to speak their language fluently. At the age of twenty he was employed by a French merchant in Montreal to assist in establishing a trading post in the Indian country and to act as interpreter. They located among the Ottawa's and also secured the trade of two or three other friendly tribes.

After a lapse of some years, the trader wishing to extend his business, made application to a Delaware chief for permission to establish a post on his beat. The chief called a council of his tribe and leave was granted. The Indians being assured of the friendly intentions of the traders, received them with great friendship. Flemmond was transferred to the new station where he remained for some time, but was afterwards removed to still another station not far from the present Selkirk settlement in Canada,—a large tract of land given by the British Government in their North American possessions about the year 1790, to Lord Selkirk, and which his lordship afterwards colonized to some extent.

About the year 1802, Flemmond left the Indian country, and found his way to Malden, Canada West, where he kept a small assortment of goods adapted to the French and Indian trade, and remained two or three years.

The object of his removal from Malden to Huron, Ohio, I think, was never explained to me, at least I have now no recollection of it. He arrived at Huron about the year 1805, where he opened a small stock of goods, supplying the Indians and the surveyors * of the land, as their necessities required. Here he remained until the war of 1812 broke out, when he disposed of his goods and became the French and Indian interpreter of Gen. Harrison of the North Western Army. On one or

* See also Pioneer Vol. 3d, page 25.—D. H P.

two occasions he was sent out as a spy to discover the strength and situation of the victorious chief Tecumseh, and his savage wariors.

Mr. Flemmond, was a plain unassuming man, of a social temperament and good disposition, and enjoyed the respect and good will of all that knew him. He did not possess the benefits of education but had a good intellect and one of the most retentive memories I ever knew. *His memory may be said to have been his day book.* He was a man of strict integrity and very prompt in meeting engagements. If he had given his word in any case, he thought it great dishonor not to fulfill promptly.

He possessed a remarkable gift of enumeration—would sell customers say ten or twelve items of goods, some of them of considerable value and would give the amount with great accuracy. In the sale of a large bill, however, he would call for assistance. His religion was Roman Catholic.

About the close of the war with England, he married the daughter of Mr. Pollock, of Huron, whose christian name I have forgotten. He owned a small farm on the west bank of the Huron River, about half a mile from its mouth. I employed Mr. Flemmond, as my assistant in Reed & Sanford's store in January 1816, and he remained with me until spring opened when he returned to his farm.

The Indians at that time were in the habit, many of them, of returning in early winter from their summer haunts and spending the cold months in the forests where they had formerly found game, but where there were a few white settlers. The country south-east of Huron, and what is now a portion of Lorain County, was interspersed with Indian Camps.

I had occasion to go on a trading trip among them in December, 1816, and I hired Mr. Flemmond as my interpreter. We put out with a lot of goods and spent most of January. Our route was through Clarksfield, New London, Ruggles, and what is now Troy, Huntington, and the vicinity of Oberlin. Our head quarters were at Mr. Sweet's* in New London, (the same who afterwards lived near Milan.) Mr. F., also went with me in February, 1817, to Upper Sandusky, and its vicinity for the purchase of furs, returning in about twenty days.

Mr. Flemmond exercised a great influence over the Indians. They appeared to respect him highly, and he was in his element when among them. My trade with the Indians having now closed and having an assistant in the store, I had no further need of his services. I left Huron in 1819, and knew but little of his history afterwards; but believe he died * at Huron about the year 1827.

Ashland, O., May 31, 1866.

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* See Pioneer, vol. 4, page 54—D. H. P.

*See Pioneer Vol. 4, page 66.—D. H. P.

SKETCH OF THE LIFE OF POLLY PIERCE.

BY CAPT. C. WOODRUFF.

DIED, in Peru, Huron County, Ohio, September 26th, 1865, POLLY PIERCE, aged sixty-five.

Polly Pierce was a remarkable woman. Her claims to our respect we cheerfully acknowledge, and honor our natures in recognizing so worthy a representative of the Pioneer age. Had her lot been cast among the cultivated and influential of the world, her history might have compared favorably with any of her sex. The outlines of her character were so strongly marked that we may easily trace the evidence of her intellectual powers. That class to which she naturally belonged, to the misfortune of our race, has become almost extinct.

In adjusting her views of life and its duties, her standards were chosen from an age less exposed to the sophistries of conceited reformers. She had no faith in doctrines or customs which had not been proved by the unerring test of time. The law of God as given to Moses, and the teachings of Christ and his apostles were her articles of faith, in matters of religion. The Declaration of Independence embodied her political sentiments, and the spirit of its authors animated her soul and controlled her sympathies for her country. The customs and practices of the good old grandmothers of the early settlers were all-sufficient for her social guidance.

This characteristic of adhering to time-honored principles and customs was maintained with such rigid consistency and self-sacrifice, that she would doubtless have suffered martyrdom rather than compromised her convictions of right and truth. Born of humble parents, reared without the means or opportunities for high intellectual or moral culture, entering upon the active duties of life amidst the difficulties and trials incident to the early Pioneers, encountering stern realities instead of ideas during most of her life, it is not so strange that her great natural powers should have remained in comparative obscurity, for, notwithstanding she discarded all connection with that class termed "strong-minded women," she might with some propriety be styled the "noblest Roman of them all." Every one in conversing with her, was struck with her conversational abilities. Without a knowledge of the rules or laws of grammar, she was entirely at home in the use of language without it. Every thought was so naturally and clearly expressed, that there was no mistaking her meaning. Every subject was so completely stripped of circumlocution and verbiage, that its features were perfectly transparent. In this respect she showed a decided originality, and many of her sayings will long be quoted by her acquaintances, and some of her "home-thrusts" at the follies of the age, are worthy of a place in the annals of criticism.

Her views of "new fangled notions" brought her in frequent contact with those about her, and her controversies were characterized by a style of logic better calculated

to convict than to convert. She would reason from experience more palpable than flattering, and appeal to the judgment rather than pride. Her authority—"Thus saith the Lord." Blest with a memory that retained all she desired to store in it, she never lacked for an illustration to point a moral. She also excelled in the gift of public speaking, judging from her small experience in this line. All those who have heard her speak in the Pioneer meetings, will attest this assertion. Some who have heard her publicly address the throne of Grace have pronounced her the ablest person in prayer they ever heard. All her utterance seemed to be inspired by a living faith, and pervaded by such earnestness that she secured the closest attention. Her voice and manner of delivery were well adapted to impressive address; and doubtless had she been favored with suitable culture, she might have secured the reputation of an Orator.

Perhaps the most prominent feature of her character was her inflexible firmness. After marking out that course, which duty suggested, she believed in "fighting it out on that line." This trait manifested itself more obviously in her social intercourse, and in disregarding the changing fashions which have always kept her sex on the alert in matters of dress. Many have attributed this peculiarity in her to a desire to obtain notoriety, but by studying her character more closely, they will discover that it was the result of a concientious principle carried into practice—one method by which she designed to impress upon others the sincerity of her own professions.

This was also exemplified in her christian deportment and fidelity to her religious obligations. Many years ago Prayer Meetings were organized in her neighborhood; and although but few attended she was always there, and on some occasions conducted all the services alone. Although for long periods deprived of christian fellowship and intercourse, it is believed that the fire of dovotion was kept constantly burning in her heart, and the lamp kept trimmed ready to meet her Master. She had energy and physical endurance—whatever she attempted was usually accomplished.

A friend relates that at an early day he met her quite a distance from the house going to milk, carrying a milk pail, a pail of slops, two Pumpkins, and a child a year and a half old, and apparently moving off with ease. She was a woman of great industry, and was generally engaged in laborious employment, such as spinning and weaving, taking care of cows, making butter and raising vegetables.

By her industry and prudence she succeeded, after the death of her husband in 1836, in supporting herself and accumulating quite a sum of money. A stranger passing her humble home, a small place with a log cabin upon it in a retired corner of Sherman Township, would hardly have supposed that worldly prosperity, or nobility of character presided over such a forbidding locality. But "aunt Polly" never had an aspiration for anything more showy. Her cabin was a palace to her as long as it sheltered her loom, her plain home-made furniture and her old Bible. The incense from the altar of her heart there, was as sweet as if offered from a golden censer. Notwithstanding her retired position in society, she had all the elements of a leader. Not one of the animals around her premises, not a goose, or a chicken, or a turkey, but what was taught to know its master, and was known by its own significant appellation. The names of her domestic animals and

fowls were specimens of her odd genius, "Mohawk," "Tecumseh" or "Pocahontas" answered in the person of a favorite rooster or hen; Queen or Lophorn, designated a cow, and so of the most insignificant of her creatures. She never seemed to be embarrassed in any position in which she was placed. She was as little disconcerted among educated and genteel people, as among her chickens and lambs. Whether in the public assembly, in the marts of trade, in the social circle, or beside the sick couch, she was always equal to the emergency; and her presence of mind gave her the appearance of a veteran wherever placed.

She was respected for her kind and benevolent heart, and the sympathy she shewed to the oppressed and unfortunate. She manifested her kindness by visiting the sick, and ministering to their wants. Though not noted for that kind of philanthropy, which professes to wholesale its benefits to man, and aims to universal remedies, hers was made up of deeds of charity, messages of love, and admonitions of truth.

She was a woman of great courage. This might be inferred from what has already been said; but her whole history is a vindication of this assertion. The fearless manner in which she encountered the dangers of the early settlers, is remembered by all who knew her. Some of these incidents she has related at the Pioneer meetings in her own inimitable way, and will long be remembered for their extraordinary daring: particularly her encounter with the bear, and her conquest of the ferocious creature; as well as her Indian experience. To use her oft-quoted sentiment, "She lived where nothing dewlt but beasts of prey—Or men more fierce and vile than they." She was a patriot; I need say not loyal. She was more; she loved, she almost adored her country. Though she saw but little in this world that approached her ideas of perfection, she believed this Government, this workmanship of the Revolutionary fathers worthy of all praise, and entitled to the great sacrifice which has been made for its preservation. It is doubtful whether the immortal Martyr who stood so nobly at the Nation's Citadel, felt a deeper or more unselfish solicitude for the result of the bloody conflict, than "Aunt Polly Pierce." Through all the country's dark hours of trial, her heartfelt prayer daily ascended to the great disposer of all events, to save the Nation and to over-throw the wicked Rebellion. And when the shout of the triumphant host filled the land, her soul sent up to God its tribute of joyful thanksgiving; and up to the very close of her life she seemed to be absorbed with the theme of her country's deliverance. Those who had been the instruments in saving her idol, secured the highest seat in her earthly affections. She took a deep interest in all that concerned the welfare of the soldier, and often regretted that she was not a man to assist them in the camp and field.

No one understood the nature of the controversy better or could more easily point out the lines between the loyal and disloyal. The specious catch phrases so frequently made use of by the southern sympathizers were so easily sifted through her clear intellect, that the traitor was easily exposed behind his favorite screen.

We have already alluded to her character as a christian. She embraced religion and joined the Methodist Episcopal Church under the labors of Rev. James McIntyre, at an early day, and remained a member of that communion to the close of her life. Her usefulness in the cause of religion was limited by her

circumstances, and her retired position in the world. While her rigid notions of duty and outspoken manner of condemning the encroachments on the apostolic modes of worship, weakened to some extent the affections of her religious associates; at the same time the advocates of unlimited indulgence in matters of worship, characterized her zeal as a species of bigotry. That she was sincere in her professions, inflexible in her purposes, and earnest in her efforts was universally admitted.

Her worth was not fully appreciated by cotemporary laborers. They scarcely realized how necessary she was as a landmark, or a headland to measure their departures from the straight and narrow way, until she had been taken from them; and now since she has gone, her words come back to us as oracles. Her exhortations return to stir our faith like the enunciations of a Prophet, and every true follower of the Redeemer regrets that there are so few invincible veterans in the spiritual host.

Personally she was tall and well-formed; she had an intelligent and dignified appearance, but was not famed for beauty more than femenine graces. She wasted no time as she often remarked, in fooling with fashions, nor spent any money on gew-gaws. She was a daughter of Ebenezer Curtiss, and was born in Leverett, Mass., in 1798; was married to Alex. Pierce, at 17 years by whom she had three sons and one daughter. The youngest being now nearly 40 years old. The daughter died while young.

We have but briefly glanced at a few of the features in the character of this remarkable woman. A faithful record of her odd sayings, her laughable observations, her inimitable caricatures, and her withering satire, would be very amusing. A history of her trials and privations would increase our interest and sympathy in her behalf.

To fully understand her mental capacity, her nobility of intellect, to realize her christian integrity, her lofty patriotism, her faith in the triumphs of truth, and her trust in God, would serve to exalt our views of human nature.

PERSONAL REMINESCENCES.

BY EBNEEZER OSBORN, OF FITCHVILLE.

I was born in Windham, Green Co., N. Y., Dec. 13, 1801, and was brought up a farmer, living with my father until of age. From that time until October 1825, I worked out by the month and having saved $200 from my wages, started for Ohio with Allen Johnson and family, traveling by the Erie Canal.

It was at the time of the celebration of the opening of the canal, cannons were fired along the route and we met Gov. Dewitt Clinton in a nicely furnished packet boat drawn by three splendid horses, gaily decorated with ribbons and a boy on each, gaily decorated.

At Holly, we left the boat and vis-

ited a couple of weeks. Mrs. Johnson not liking the lake, he bought a team, and loading our things we started in good earnest. At Buffalo, we exchanged our eastern money for that of Niagara. Accompanied by Miss Nancy Post, a half sister of Mrs. Johnson (and now Mrs. Seeley Palmer,) we traveled up the lake shore to Ashtabula, where we rested a few days, and then journeyed to Fitchville, by way of Mr. Walker's, in Eldridge.

We stopped with Mr. A. G. Post. After looking around awhile, I purchased of Moses Kimball and Ebenezer Andrews, Lots 28 and 29, in Section 3. The Kimball lot I paid for and took the Andrews lot on contract. Before the latter made his deed, the Niagara bank broke and my money was worthless. After much anxiety and trouble I obtained funds of my father and paid for the land.

I boarded with Mr. Johnson one year and a half paying him in work at the rate of two days for board a week. December 2d, after my arrival, I commenced clearing my land. After the severe labor of that winter and the next season I succeeded in getting in a crop of wheat.

I was married December 6th, 1826, to Ann, daughter of Abijah Palmer, L. Robbins officiating, but we did not keep house until the next June. We were both poor. She went to spinning flax and tow to make articles for house-keeping and I to chopping logs for a house which was built that winter and spring. When the house was done, we loaded our things on an ox wagon and moved in high spirits. Here in common with other pioneers, we endured hardships and suffered privations. Some of them were scenes which made the heart ache. May God grant we may never see the like again!

Mr. Zalmon Green came in the fall before we moved, and bought part of the Post location. He cleared his land and built a house so that we could see from one to the other. He proved a valued neighbor and christian brother, and still lives on the same place.

In those days money was almost out of the question. To procure enough for our taxes and postage, we saved our ashes when clearing land and made black salts. The rest of our trade was mainly barter. one incident I will relate, to illustrate many others of pioneer life. I had to raise 15 dollars in money and having some good wheat I sent word by Mr. Green to Ezra Smith at Peru to know what he would pay a bushel for it. He sent back word that he would give me fifty cents per bushel if I would draw the wheat to his mill and then the flour to Huron. I had a team but no wagon, and had to pay 50 cents per day for one. It took two days to haul the wheat and three, the flour and then I received the 15 dollars.

Albert, my first son was born Feb. 15th, 1828, and my daughter Mary, June 17th, 1831. My wife united with the Congregational Church in Fitchville in 1830, and I did the same within the year following. She died Jan. 23, 1863. She was born in Genoa, N. Y., Sept. 6th, 1809, an emigrated to Fitchville with her father in 1818. She was an invalid for eight years before her death and suffered very much. I do not feel that I can do justice to departed worth without saying that her death has been a great loss to me, her children, the church and a large circle of relations and friends.

In early days many good religious meetings were held in Fitchville. Among those who from time to time attended, I remember Rev's Enoch Conger, and E. Judson and Elder John Seymour, an efficient lay member now living in Lyme.

The first Congregational Church of Fitchville, was organized May 21st, 1819, by the Rev. John Seward (now living in Tallmadge, O.,) and Rev. Joseph Treat Missionaries of Connecticut Missionary Society. Although all of the following have been stated supplies since, *not one has ever been installed.*

A. H. Betts, 1823; L. B. Sullivan, 1824; James McMaster, 1826; Ladonicus Robbins, 1826; John Beach, 1829; Samuel Dunton, 1832; Wm. Taylor, 1836; W. W. St. John, 1837; U. T. Chamberlain, 1838; Dr. Marcus Palmer, 1840; Henry Cobb, 1844; J. Saxby, 1847; Wm. Westervelt 1848; M. Waldo, 1851; J. M. Vanwaggoner, 1852; Wm. Brigman, 1853; Messrs. Findley and Wright, temporary supplies to 1858; Wm. Johnson, 1858; O. Burgess, 1860; J. C. Thompson, 1862; Wm. Westervelt, 1866.

The first Sabbath School in Fitchville was organized by Allen Johnson at his house in 1825, myself and Zetta Green teachers. My scholars were Edward Green, Benj. Green, Barnard Johnson. Mrs. Green's scholars were Louisa Johnson, and Sarah Palmer.

Fitchville March 28th, 1867.

HOSMER MERRY.

A BRIEF SKETCH OF ONE OF THE EARLY PIONEERS OF MILAN, OHIO.

Hosmer Merry was born at Kinderhook, New York, in 1783. At the age of eleven his father moved to Genesee County. At the age of 17, he with his Bro. Ebenezer started for the then Far West, stopping at Mentor, Lake County, Ohio, at which place there was then no town. When he was 21, he returned, to Genesee County remaining about one year, at which time he returned again to Mentor.

Feb. 28th, 1807, he was married to Miss Sarah Frost, who was born in Watertown, Connecticut, Oct. 28th, 1787. In Dec. 1810, he came to what is now called Milan, locating on a farm one and one-half miles below the village on which he built a log house. He did not however move his family there until in Feb. 1811. There they remained most of the time, during the exciting times of 1812 & 1813, seeking refuge and protection in case of alarm in the Block House at Camp Avery, which was situated some 2 miles from his farm. In 1812, he was drafted for six months. He entered his team and went as teamster, and as such was engaged in transporting supplies for the army, and was frequently at Fort Croghan. He with two or three companions started the next day after eth engagement on Lake Erie, from Huron, with a boat load of provisions to go to the fleet. On arriving near the fleet, they could see the red uniform of the British about the American vessel, and were in doubt as to whether they had better go ahead or retreat, when they were hailed from the fleet. On their being assured that Commodore Perry was vic-

torious, one of the men in the boat by the name of Harvey, an old Revolutionary hero, sprang to his feet swinging his hat and calling on his comrades to "*Row boys, for God sake row.*" They were the first to board the fleet after the engagement.

In the spring of 1833, he moved to Oxford township. His first wife died August, 1825, leaving six children, viz: Ebenezer O., Henry F., Fanny, George A., William W., and Betsey P., all of whom are now living except Betsey, who died Sept. 2d, 1843.

He was married the second time in 1826, to Sarah Reed, who is still (at this date) living in Milan. By her he had two children Mary A., and Stephen.

He was Justice of the Peace of Oxford township, at the time of his death, which occured August, 23d, 1835. Age 52 years.

E. O. M.

LESSONS OF THE WAR.

ADDRESS AT THE NINTH ANNIVERSARY OF THE FIRE LANDS HISTORICAL SOCIETY.

BY G. T. STEWART.

Mr. President—*Ladies and Gentlemen:*—It is with unaffected pleasure that I comply with the invitation to address you on this occasion, and as I meet your familiar faces my thoughts revert to the past. Nearly a quarter of a century ago I came to reside in this beautiful village. When I look back over the many rapid and wonderful events of that period, I am amazed at the vastness and variety of the changes that have been wrought here, through our land, and throughout the world. They seem more like the visions of a night than the verities of the age. But how much more vividly must this contrast of the past and present affect the minds of you who have lived here for half a century; who looked upon these Fire Lands as upon a theatre from the first act in the drama of their civilization; who first saw them clothed with their primitive forests—their solitudes unbroken save by the tread of the wandering savage and the wild beast. The curtain falls and rises again. A single pioneer lifts his axe here; the trees around him fall; a cabin appears and the voice of woman and children is heard. The plowshare turns up the rich virgin soil and the earth yields its tribute to the hand of the husbandman. Others of your number follow. As by enchantment spring up dwellings, school houses and churches. They gather into clusters of hamlet, village, town and city. Then come the steamer, the railroad, the telegraph, the press—all the retinue of art, science and

advanced civilization. From that first unit, that pioneer with his lifted axe, the scenes of the shifting drama change into the Fire Lands of to-day, with their seventy thousand population, their christianity, education, agriculture, manufactures, commerce, wealth and power. The curtain drops. You see that first pioneer before you, presiding at your meeting. You gaze at the scenes around. You lay your hands on your temples and lift the white hairs. You ask, "Is all this reality? Am I the same person? Is this the same world?" Yes, all this is reality, it is history, and your Society is formed to gather up the facts, the philosophy, the experience and wisdom of that half a century of pioneer life, and to crystalize them into an imperishable record. It is not here that your history begins and end. It belongs to the nation and the world. We live in a period of unexampled progress, when the cycles of great events seem to be hastened and compressed from ages into years, from years into days.

"We are dwelling, we are dwelling
In a grand and awful time,
Ages upon ages telling,
To be living is sublime."

This meeting recalls one of the scenes of the past. We remember our first anniversary in this hall, nine years ago. Most of the early pioneers then present are here now, with the white crowns of nine more years upon them. Some have gone to the spirit land. The venerable patriarch who presided at the inauguration of this invaluable and successful enterprise, is here to-day to honor the occasion with his presence. Then, as now, it was the month of roses, and all around was smiling in beauty and peace. Three years after we met in this hall, but ah, how changed the scene! It was the month of roses, but they wore a deeper tint.

"The crimson flower of battle bloomed,
And solemn marches filled the night."

At our first meetings we talked only of the past, we thought only of the past. We had organized to collect the materials of pioneer life in the Firelands and mould them into lessons and examples of virtue, industry, courage, perseverance and patriotism, for the instruction and inspiration of succeeding generations. How little did we then think of the grand volume of events which the angel of time was about to open. In the last five years a new history has been unfolded to the world, to to the nation, to the State and to the Fire Lands. The pupils have become the teachers. The boys who played in your streets and before your doors, who paused to listen to your recitals of pioneer heroism, who caught the fire of liberty from your lips as from an altar, went forth to illustrate your precepts by their achievements in the mightiest conflict of armed hosts that had been known since the creation of man. Thousands of them went from the Fire Lands; hundreds of them will never return to the living. Some are with you to-day. They are no longer boys, learning history at the grandsire's knee. They are men of a new age; they are the authors, the actors, the heroes of a new history; they are the saviors of their country, the benefactors of the world. Your Society has a new and precious duty before it. You have recorded much of the deeds of the fathers. Open now white pages in your records and write down the names and memorials of the *sons of the Firelands.* They have returned, but not all. Some sleep beneath the red sod of the battle field. Some have died in the hospital, in the camp, in the march, and some have perished by

slow murder, by hunger and cold, in the prison hells of a cruel, malignant foe. What tongue can tell, what pen can record the story of the sufferings and the martyrdom of many of them. Green be the turf over those who sleep in death, watered by their country's tears. Honor and gratitude attend the living. I am not here to rehearse their deeds. Let them have the pleasure of unfolding before you the glorious scenes in which they and their fallen compatriots mingled, that their testimony may be embalmed in your records, for the honor of the living and the dead. I am not here to recall in detail the thrilling events of the past five years, but rather to consider their logical results and inculcations —to review the "Lessons of the War."

Your organization and objects are purely historical. But history is more than a collection of annals; it is more than a mere catalogue of events in their chronological order. These are a part of history, but though fundamental and necessary, they are not the most important. To explore events to their causes and to follow them out to their consequences, to bring forth the grand truths which they illustrate, to warn the bad, to encourage the good, to instruct and elevate all; this is the office work of history. This is the main object of your organization. Since it was formed we have all been at school. We have learned new truths. We have reviewed old lessons and revived old truths which had been too long forgotten. War is the school of nations. In all civilized and Christian lands wars are conflicts of ideas as well as of arms. In savage nations they are generally mere issues of force. They are for power and plunder, malice and revenge, lust and passion. These elements too often predominate in civilized warfare, but on both sides there must be at least a professed issue of right principle. The nation that would undertake to crush a weaker power, at this day, avowedly for mere conquest and plunder, would be met by the opposing arm of the civilized world. Both parties now appeal to God for the rectitude of their cause; both point to the Bible, to the laws of nations and the principles of international justice; both shout for the right, as they rush to the deadly encounter. Thus the conflict is one of moral as well as material forces, and in the results great lessons of truth are written out, with pen of fire and ink of blood, for the instruction and warning of the witnessing world and of future ages. In the more holy and patriarchal days, when God communed with men on earth, stones were heaped and pillars were erected, as the mute orators of events and teachers of posterity. But in the darker days of human apostacy, war was sent to pile up in vast pyramids the bones of slaughtered nations, as awful monitors of the rights of humanity and the retributions of eternal justice. After the example of older nations, we have reared our pyramid of six hundred thousand men slain in the last five years by the bloody hand of war. Has that no lessons for us and for the world? Is there no voice from all that monumental pile of human victims towering to heaven above us, to declare the woes of wrong, the power of right, the judgments of God and the truths of history?

NATIONALITY OF THE REPUBLIC.

The first great lesson of the war is the national unity of our Government. The question of our independence was settled by the Revolutionary war. But the idea of our nationality is one which almost all foreign nations had laughed to scorn. The thought of our inspiring motto,

"*E Pluribus Unum*," was, in their view, a mere chimera of political enthusiasts. The theory of Calhoun was that of the world, that the United States were no nation, but only a community of States. A large part of our own people never, before this war, seemed to realize the unity of the nation. How strange is the conception, that for almost ninety years these States, waxing from thirteen to thirty-six in number, from three to thirty millions in population, should have journeyed on to that eminence, as mere travelers in the highway of nations, associating only as a matter of political affinity or convenience, but with no organic power to bind them together. This was the view of eleven States and of large masses of population in other States. When it seemed no longer convenient to them, the eleven travelers attempted to withdraw from their companions and to take another path. Here came up the first question in the late conflict of arms and of principles. The issue was made and decided by wager of war. Five hundred battle fields have thundered into the ear of the world the fact that we are a nation—a nation of States, a nation of citizens—"distinct as the billows, but one as the sea." The sword of the fathers established our independence, and all nations acknowledged the United States of America as free and independent. The sword of the sons has vindicated our nationality, and all the world now confess the powerful unity of the Republic. It was not for want of clearness and vigor in the terms of the national compact, that this issue was raised. Words could not be plainer or stronger in defining the national character of the Government than those recorded in the Constitution. After the war had ended, Congress sought in vain for language which, by amendment of the Constitution, would express more emphatically the integrity of the National Government and its sovereignty over the States in all national matters. They could not find words more clear, more cogent, more comprehensive in that significance, than those written there by the hands of the fathers. The fault was not in the Constitution, but in the political infidelity of the people to the Constitution. When a sectional interest or a sectional prejudice had been infringed by some act of the General Government, the spirit of nullification had arisen and clamored for State wrongs and usurpations, under the false name of "State Rights." The political heresies which obtained such prominence in South Carolina, had been too long and too far indulged in other parts of our country. Now that the people see their logical results in the light of blazing homes and crimson battle fields, they will look on the demagogues who advocate them hereafter as their deadliest foes.

SOVEREIGNTY AND LOYALTY OF THE PEOPLE.

The second lesson enforced by the war is that of popular sovereignty in the government and popular loyalty to the government. It has been said that these words, sovereignty and loyalty, have no place in a republican form of government; and that thought was one of the most potent causes of the late unhappy struggle. The dogma of personal sovereignty was born of social and political infidelity. It was one of the foul and fell crudities of the French infidel revolution, that self-government was the only proper one for man and that every citizen had a natural right to do as he pleased, in defiance of all other forms of government. This pernicious fallacy had been too widely disseminated by the pens and tongues of dema-

gogues among our people, and had taken too deep root in many portions of the land. Everywhere it had been proclamed that "*the liberty to do right is not liberty; but the liberty to do wrong if you please, that only is liberty.*" It is the false idea, that in a republic there can be no sovereignty but that of the individual. Insurrection, rebellion, treason and civil war are the natural outgrowths of this poisonous root. If it has not entirely eradicated that, the war has exposed its venomous nature. Gettysburgh, Vicksburgh, Atlanta, Savannah, Charleston and Richmond, all the battle grounds of the rebellion have joined to teach our people and the world, that there is a sovereignty in this nation which must be obeyed, and that is the will of the majority of the people declared by their constitutional forms and methods. Our people have sometimes been self-styled "citizen sovereigns." The title is true only in the sense that each is a part of the general sovereignty. But although every citizen is not a full sovereign, every citizen is a full subject, owing duty and allegiance to the sovereignty of the nation, as loyal, nay, more loyal than the subject of any monarch on earth. When we speak of loyalty of the wife to her husband, we mean by that word to epitomize her love and her fidelity, not her servility to him. So when we speak of loyalty in a republican subject, we mean his love, his fidelity, and his cheerful obedience to the government of his choice. In a time like that of the recent civil contest, when the government is in jeopardy, the loyalty of the people is brought to the test; and this war has demonstrated that we have a government which can wield the whole power of the nation in its defence; that we have a people loyal in the highest and noblest sense of the word. Our statesmen need never fear to trust the cause of the government to the people. They made it, they will control it, and they will maintain it.

WAR POWERS OF THE CONSTITUTION.

In another lesson, this war has revealed the martial energies of the government derived from its organic law. The rebellion brought into action new and mighty powers in the government, new and vast resources in the people, which astonished themselves and the world. They seemed new, because no exigency since the creation of the government had before called them forth. In time of peace and in time of foreign war the government has no constitutional right to declare martial law, to suspend the writ of habeas corpus, or to coerce citizens into the military service. In the long domestic peace of nearly eighty years since the adoption of the Constitution, when but once a rebel arm had been raised, and but once a foreign foe had entered our borders, and these had been subdued by ordinary means, it is not wonderful that foreign nations and many of our own people were led to regard our government as destitute of great coercive as well as great cohesive powers. The results of the war have dissipated this error. They have shown that this grand national fabric, this sovereignty of the people, by the wisdom of its framers, is clothed with extraordinary powers which never can be evoked or exercised but in case of imminent peril by invasion or domestic insurrection. Then, if necessary, it can force every citizen capable of bearing arms into the battle lines in defence of the government. In the hour of danger, the Union is the strongest. Then its many millions become as one man. They command as a unit, and as a unit they obey. Then every tongue must speak, every

hand must act for the government. This is a great and inspiring lesson. Thank God there are sovereignty and loyalty in the people, and power in the Constitution. Now we feel that we are standing on rock, not on sands, and can defy the storms of treason that have wrecked so many nations.

One of the cardinal objects for which the Constitution was framed, as its preamble declares, was "to insure domestic tranquility." Hence we find in that instrument provisions for organizing, disciplining and calling out, if necessary, the entire arms-bearing population of the country to execute the laws of the Union, to suppress insurrections and to repel invasions. It requires the President, as commander-in-chief of this vast army, to do the work, and further enjoins on Congress to make "*all laws which shall be necessary*" to enable him to perform that duty. Here is the doctrine of military necessity declared in the words of the Constitution. Thus it has made ample provision for just such an emergency as the rebellion. Neither Congress nor the President are authorized by it to compromise with an insurrection. Both are required to "*suppress*" it by force of arms, and for this purpose all the military power and resources of the nation are placed in their hands. A treaty with traitors, a compromise with armed rebels—such a thing is not only unknown to the Constitution, but is a plain violation of its iron-tongued injunction to "*suppress*" insurrection. It was a strange idea which possessed the world that such a Constitution was a mere creature of sunshine and flowers, unfit to buffet the storms of war. Who made it? Men who had just come out of an eight years war, their garments red and their hands scarred with battles. Think you that they would construct a Constitution without bayonets, without batteries, without arsenals, without magazines, without armies and navies? Did they do it? Let this war answer the question. Yet upon its face, that Constitution, for eighty years had seemed all sunshine and flowers. The traitors who conspired against the government scoffed at its apparent imbecility. "What," said they, "is the Constitution but words, and words but empty air?" Yes, it had seemed like air—the unseen but all-pervading, all-powerful, all-rejoicing atmosphere in which the Republic had grown up to greatness and glory. Through it came the sunshine, the rains, the dews that woke the golden harvests. It was rich with blessings, it was vocal with songs and filled with the happy voices of a free, prosperous and mighty people. So beautiful and blessed had the land become under its fostering influence, that one of the chiefs of the rebellion apostrophized it as "the Eden of the world." But the aristocracy of the South despised that Constitutional government for its very simplicity. They looked with contempt on the Chief Magistrate who had not the power to do wrong. He could not take by force the property of the humblest citizen; he could not lay his hands in violence on a beggar, without being punished by a justice of the peace. They had grown rich by robbery and arrogant by unlimited power. At their nod chains rattled, the lash resounded and the blood hounds tore limb from limb the panting fugitive. O, how they despised that bland and blessed Constitution which seemed so gentle, so kind and beneficent to all. How they abhorred that plain republican Executive whose highest preogative was to obey the people. At last, in their insanity of ambition and pride, they dared to raise their rebel hands against the life of the Government. At the fall of Fort Sumter, as it were

in a moment, the elysian trance of eighty years was broken. That serene atmosphere of the Constitution suddenly blackened with storm and tempest. The skies thundered, the earth rocked and a darkness that might be felt fell on all the land of traitors. Like the demon roused by the spear of Ithuriel, like the masked batteries of the warring angels, burst forth in flaming vengeance the war powers of the Constitution. By them, that Executive who had seemed so meek and powerless for ill, was instantly transfigured and he stood before the world like the angel of destruction. He lifted his arm—the earth trembled with the tread of great armies and shook with the shock of five hundred battles. He lifted his arm—cities, towns, and countless dwellings burned to ashes, vast and fruitful territories changed into deserts, famine howled over blasted homes, and death and desolation raged through the South. He lifted his arm, and three hundred thousand traitors fell into bloody graves. Never before in all human history was there a crime so immense, so flagitious. Never before was retribution more swift and terrible. Never again in this Republic will traitors dare to provoke the war powers of the Constitution.

FIDELITY TO FREEDOM.

The third great lesson of the war is that of fidelity to the cause of freedom. The vital, indivisible elements of our Government are Liberty, the Constitution and the Union. They are the three in one, the political *trinitas* of the Republic, as inseparable as the head, the body and the soul of living man. The Constitution is the head, the Union is the body and Liberty is the soul, the immortal life of the nation. At the outbreak of the rebellion there were some faint hearted patriots at the North, who to save the Union, were willing to sacrifice Liberty and to make slavery a perpetual national institution, by amendment of the Constitution. If their plan had succeeded, they might have saved the form of a republic for a short time, but it would have been that of a lifeless corpse. There were others who, to save Liberty and the Union, would have overthrown the Constitution and converted the nation into an armed mob. If by such means they could have preserved life in the nation, it would have been that of a raving maniac. Another class, to save the Government from the power of slavery, would have dissolved the Union. They were like the devotees of India, who, to save their souls from the devil, cut their bodies in pieces or cast them under the car of Juggernaut. There can be no doubt that this Republic was founded in the spirit of universal liberty. The doctrines of political freedom and equality proclaimed by the Declaration of Independence, were not regarded by its authors as "mere rhetorical flourishes," or as "glittering generalities," but as plain practical truths, to be carried out in the government. The Constitution which they framed embodied that conception, warm and glowing from their hearts and from the altar fires of the Revolution. It was sacred to liberty. Not a line in it recognized any form of oppression. If we had consented to place in that Constitution, by amendment or judicial interpolation, a guaranty of slavery in all the States and territories of the Union as a national institution, the slaveholders' rebellion might not have occurred. They rebelled against that Constitution because it did not recognize slavery as a national system. When they formed their rebel confederacy they adopted our Constitution, inserting only a guaranty of slavery. When the rebellion had ended and Congress sub-

mitted to the people an amendment of the Constitution expressly prohibiting slavery in all the Republic, it was not found necessary to strike out a line or word from that instrument as inconsistent with the amendment. Yet there were four clauses of the Constitution which, though designed for and adapted to the interests of freedom, were perverted to the use and increase of slavery. One of these related to foreign immigration, another to federal representation, another to the rendition of fugitives from labor, and the fourth was the section empowering the general government to call out the whole military force of the nation to suppress insurrection. In the latter the slaveholders exulted as their tower of strength. They warned anti-slavery advocates that if by agitating the slavery question, they should produce an insurrection of the slaves, all the men of the north capable of bearing arms could be forced by that power in the Constitution to go and put down the insurrection. It is strange that they could claim the benefit of this vast power and yet deny the national sovereignty of the government. Some abolitionists in the same view, denounced the Constitution as a "covenant with death and an agreement with hell." But what a light this rebellion has thrown on that part of the Constitution. By virtue of that section in which the slaveholders so exulted, the military force of the nation was brought out and hurled against the rebellion, crushing it down, and slavery with it, forever. In the light of this war we see the indwelling spirit of liberty in the Constitution—that it is a covenant with life and not with death, that it is an agreement with heaven and not with hell. If the people of this country had been faithful to freedom in the Constitution, no war would have been necessary to save the Union. The spirit of the Revolution was universal liberty. Under that inspiration, within a hundred days after the British army left our shores a proposition was introduced by Thomas Jefferson in the Continental Congress to forever prohibit slavery in all the territories of the Republic. There was a large majority of members in favor of the measure, but the absence of some of them postponed it. A few years after the ordinance of 1787 was enacted over the northwest, the only territory then held by the Republic. Every inch of soil covered by the national flag and under national control was thus, by our revolutionary fathers, consecrated to freedom. But there was a departure from that wise policy. Other territory was acquired by the government from the States and from foreign powers, in which the curse of slavery existed. The District of Columbia, with its slaves, was ceded to the nation. The bribe was accepted and the national ægis was extended over the system. From that fatal change of policy began a political revolution which culminated in the late civil war. Had we remained faithful to freedom, had we rejected all compromises and brought the Constitutional power of the government, as did our fathers, to bear against the system, slavery would long since have disappeared from all our borders. Peacefully and grandly the Republic would have moved on in its high career, bearing up the world by the power of its principles and example, from darkness to light and from despotism to universal freedom. Let us learn from this that there can be no safe compromise between right and wrong, between heaven and hell, between liberty and slavery. Every fresh surrender of free soil to slavery in the name of the Union, was only filling up a new magazine, at last to burst forth in civil war for the de-

struction of the government. There is only one way to save the Union, the way the fathers trod, the path of fidelity to freedom. "Liberty or death," was the key note of the Revolution.. Liberty or death, must be the life motto of the Union.

NATIONAL IMPOLICY OF INJUSTICE.

This war has been a terrible illustration of the national impolicy of injustice. The government and people of the Republic tolerated one monster form of injustice, and when it had become strong it arose to destroy its benefactors. Alas, that we ever were the benefactors of slavery! Who could expect gratitude from "the sum of all villainies?" While the war was yet flagrant, in his last inaugural address, President Lincoln said, with a solemnity that seemed prophetic: "Fondly do we hope, fervently do we pray that this mighty scourge of war may speedily pass away. Yet if God wills it that it continue until all the wealth piled by the bondman's two hundred years of unrequited toil shall be sunk, and until every drop of blood drawn with the lash shall be paid by another drawn by the sword, as was said three thousand years ago, so still it must be said that 'the judgments of the Lord are true and righteous altogether.'" I stood in the audience of the people in front of the Capitol, to whom these words were addressed. As we looked on him, how little did we think, how little did he think, that in his own person he was so soon to be offered up on the altar of his country, a sacrifice for the injustice of the people. Many years before, the State of Illinois permitted one of its best citizens to be publicly assassinated and his newspaper press to be destroyed by a pro-slavery mob, because he had dared to advocate on the soil of that State, the principles of the Declaration of Independence. The State authorities refused to prevent or punish the crime. The people of the State said, "Let his blood be upon us and our children." Justice may be slow, but it is sure, and in an unexpected hour its thunderbolt fell on the State of Illinois. The noblest son of that State, the pride and glory of its people, who had been exalted to the head of the nation, fell in the public presence by the hand of an assassin, who was impelled to the atrocious deed by the same spirit of injustice that slew the martyr of Alton. At the grave of Lincoln let us learn how God abhors injustice in a people. Who was there among us that did not feel, in his death, a great calamity had befallen the nation and the world?

He "had borne his faculties so meekly, had been
So clear in his great office, that his virtues
Will plead like angels trumpet-tongued against
The deep damnation of his taking off."

"From fame leaf and angel leaf,
From monument and urn,
The sad of earth, the glad of heaven,
His tragic fate shall learn;
And on fame leaf and angel leaf
His name shall ever burn."

He was an embodiment of justice, yet he died the just for the unjust. It is one of the marvelous dispensations of Heaven that in all ages, the innocent, often the greatest and best of men, have been sacrificed to atone for the crimes of the guilty. If God spared not his own son, but made him an offering for the sins of the world, why should he not demand sacrifices from men? In our late war hundreds of thousands of the innocent fell a bloody offering for the crimes of a guilty nation. There is a sensitive unity in the rights and interests of all citizens of the Republic. We are a body politic, a body social, and bound together by the ties of a mighty fraternity. If we permit a wrong act to be done to the humblest among the millions of our

land, when we have the power to prevent it, sooner or later its retribution will reach us. If we permit an unjust and despotic element to exist in the Government, its curse will descend upon us and our children. That curse the land now mourns. Build high the monuments of the nation's slain on all the battle fields of the Union. Crown them with honors and make them glorious with art; but there is one inscription we must write on them all, "*These died to atone for the injustice of the people.*" The rule of civil government affirmed by Thomas Jefferson, "equal and exact justice to all men;" the golden rule of our Savior, "Do unto others as ye would that they should do unto you," is the only wise and safe policy for a free people. To discriminate against the rights of any, is finally to destroy the rights of all.

MORAL HEROISM.

Another lesson of the war is that of courage and perseverance in and for the right. It seems a trite precept, yet many a great and good enterprise has failed through the faintheartedness of its supporters. Many a nation has sunk for lack of moral heroism. All patriots felt the justice of our cause in the late struggle, but there were myriads among us who believed that final success was impossible, and who almost to the last hour proclaimed the war a failure. Yet it continued only about four years and resulted in a complete and glorious victory. Compare this with the unfaltering zeal of our fathers in the cause of freedom. For seven years they had fought through toils and privations of which we had no conception; and what was then their condition? With a bankrupt treasury, an army in rags, their only resources were in God and the hearts of the people. Seven years—and yet the metropolis of the country, the city of New York, was in the hands of the enemy; North and South Carolina, Georgia, all below the Maryland and Virginia line, and numerous other parts of the country, were held by British and armed Tories; while a British army, headed by an American traitor, had invaded New England itself, and was ravaging, burning and pillaging the towns and settlements of Connecticut, New London and others whose names are memorable in the history of the Firelands. It was in that darkest hour of the national struggle that the name of liberty was burned into your future title deeds of these half a million acres, by the torch of the traitor and the invader. But that darkest hour was just before day. Amid all discouragements they pressed bravely on, and before another year had elapsed their labors and sufferings were crowned with immortal triumph. Such be the spirit of all who contend for liberty, never to despair, never to compromise, never to surrender, never to abandon the sacred cause; but to fight on, fight ever, if need be to transmit the war as a holy legacy from generation to generation, assured of final victory.

> "For freedom's battle once begun,
> Bequeathed from bleeding sire to son,
> Though baffled oft, is always won."

GOD IN HISTORY.

The grand, crowning lesson of this war is that of trust and submission, as a people, to the God of our fathers. If there is a nation which ought to acknowledge in the most public and solemn manner, before angels and men, the special superintending power and protection of the Almighty, it is the United States of America. This feeling seemed to pervade the hearts of the people at the close of the late war, and

memorials went up to Congress asking that an express recognition of the Supreme Being might appear in the national Constitution. The Judiciary Committee of the Senate reported that there was already a clause in that instrument protecting religious freedom, and that this was an implied recognition of the Deity; and so the Senate excused the Committee from a further consideration of the subject. Pardon me, if I do not appreciate the wisdom or piety of that Senate. Pardon me, if I cannot be satisfied with a God by implication. This Republic was born of the right hand of the Almighty. Not only above the Mayflower and when the corner stone of the infant nation was laid on Plymouth Rock, but in every hour of battle his arm was bared and visible, guiding and impelling our fathers to become a nation. The war begun at Lexington was not designed to be a war of revolution or of independence. None then dreamed of such a result. It was begun to assert the rights of British subjects. For sixteen months it was prosecuted for that sole purpose. The battles of Lexington and Bunker Hill, the siege of Boston, the invasion of Canada, and many of the leading events of the war had transpired, and yet there were seen the whole American army, with George Washington at their head, kneeling before the British throne with petitions in their hands, entitled "*Your Majesty's loyal, dutiful subjects in America humbly pray.*" Then it was that the voice of God from the battle cloud commanded them to stand up and be a nation. Men called it "military necessity,"—and what is that but the voice of God? Help from abroad was necessary. Foreign intervention was sought but could not be granted to them while they remained in the acknowledged position of British subjects. Hence they were forced to adopt the Declaration of Independence as a war measure. Then they were recognized by foreign powers and help came from abroad. Thus by the force of a military necessity, amid the battle smoke and the thunders of war, at the fiat of the Almighty, this republic was ushered into being. How was it in the late conflict with the rebellion? Where were our leaders? Where were our mighty men? We looked for them in vain. It was the pillar of cloud by day and of fire by night that led us on. Three years after the war began President Lincoln wrote to a friend, "Now at the end of three years' struggle the nation's condition is not what either party or any man devised or expected. God alone can claim it." So evident to him was the hand of Providence guiding the struggle.

The change in the character and results of the war was as wonderful then as in the time of our fathers. It was begun as a war for the integrity of the Union, it became a war for universal liberty, and ended with a jubilee of four million emancipated slaves. It was begun to save the liberties of the white man, it was prosecuted sixteen months for that purpose, and then it was found impossible to save the liberties of the white, without giving freedom to the black. It became evident that European powers were about to intervene in behalf of the South, and that nothing but emancipation could prevent them. Thus by a military necessity, by the voice of God, the nation was commanded and compelled to abolish slavery. Future ages will look with wonder and awe on these divine parallels in our history. To secure foreign intervention in one war, we were forced to proclaim independence. To prevent foreign intervention in another war, we were forced to decree emancipation. To God and not to man be all

the glory. He who created and has thus grandly controlled the history of this Republic, will guide it onward and upward to the high destiny for which he has prepared it. Great and wonderful have been the sacrifices of the nation, sad have been the losses of some of you, but greater and most glorious are the compensations. There is nothing on earth that is worth preserving, but has been bought with the blood of sacrifice. The highest and most enduring of all blessings was purchased with the precious blood of the Son of God.

"As He died to make men holy,
Let us die to make men free."

Thanks to His mercy, the sacrifice is ended and accepted before Him. The black and bitter storm of war has passed away. The bow of promise and the cross of fire are before us in the beaming heavens. God's smile is upon us. The spirits of our fathers a' e whispering to our souls. O, let us be faithful to this last, sublimest lesson of the war, the *Fatherhood of God and the Brotherhood of Man.* On that, as a foundation rock, our fathers laid the glorious fabric of this Union, and while it stands there, it will defy all foes from without, all traitors from within, and all hell from beneath. It will continue to rise in glory and in beauty, its summit crowned with celestial radiance, and descending upon it, we shall see the angels of God, the angels of Peace and Liberty and Love, with the best gifts of Heaven for us all.

SKETCH OF THE LIFE OF COL. JAMES SMITH.

BY ROBERT SMITH.

The records in possession of Col. Smith's family date back no farther than Feb. 9th, 1688. Under that date the record contains the marriage of Thomas Judd, and Sarah Freeman. Their youngest daughter, Ruth Judd, was born May 9th, 1707, and was united by marriage to James Smith, April 26th, 1727. The children by this marriage were Keziah, Samuel, Azubah, Reuben and Ruth.

Samuel Smith was born April 9th, 1730, and was married to Abigail Higley, June 3, 1752. There were nine children by this marriage, of whom the eldest, James Smith, Sen., was born July 29th, 1753, and united by marriage with Freelove Upson, Dec. 19th, 1780. The children by this marriage were Rosannah, Martin, and James, Jun. The last named, & the subject of this sketch, was born May 22, 1787. His mother died Oct. 25th, 1790, in the 33d year of her age. His father married Lucy Webster, Dec. 22, 1791, by whom he had three children; Freelove, Robert and Elihu. Lucy Smith, wife of James Smith, Sen., died March 26th, 1813, in the 59th year of her age.

James Smith, Sen., and Sarah Hull Merriman, were married Sept. 23d,

1813, By this marriage there was one child, Reuben, born June 30th, 1816. James Smith, Sen. died March 3d, 1819, in the 66th year of his age.

Young James, soon after the death of his mother, went to live with his grandfather, Samuel Smith, where he remained until he was thirteen or fourteen years old, when he returned to the parental roof and worked upon the farm, until he was 19 years of age, (1806,) when, with his brother Martin, he made his first start in the business world, yankee like, with a horse and cart load of Tin Ware, bound for the Carolinas, and a market, following this business, during the fall and winter of 1806–7. The two succeeding winters he engaged in the manufacture of buttons at Petersburg, Virginia, and for some time afterward, with his brother Martin, carried on the same business in Southington, Conn., near the old homestead, and the home of his ancestors, for four or five generations. The war with Great Britain, closed most of the factories in New England, and James, with thousands of others, was thrown out of employment.

He entered the Army as Ensign, in May, 1813. His first commission as Lieut. in the 37th Regt., Inft., U. S. Service, gave him rank, from May 1st, 1814. Lieut. Smith, was engaged for some time, as a recruiting officer and was stationed at Fort Hale, serving under Capt. Northrop, until the close of the war. As soon as the troops were mustered out of service, Lieutenant Smith returned to Southington, and on the 21st of Sept. 1815, was married to Miss Mary L. Doolittle; and soon after engaged in the mercantile business, which proved anything but profitable. In the Spring of 1817, he started on a trading expedition, crossed the mountains to Pittsburg, and thence down the Ohio, in a traders boat to Louisville, where he disposed of his goods, and returned to Conn. the next fall.

In April 1821, Mr. Smith, removed with his family, to Gibson Township, Susquehanna Co., Penn., where his sister Rosannah, with her husband, Capt. Elias Bell, were then living. He remained in Gibson, seven and a half years, engaged in agricultural pursuits during the summer months, and teaching school, six of the seven winters.

On the 29th of May, 1827, Gov. Shulze, commissioned James Smith, Jun., a Lieut. Col. in the 136th Regt., Penn. Volunteer Militia. Since then he has been generally known as Col. Smith. During his residence in Penn., Col. S. became acquainted with the Revs. John Beach, and Enoch Conger, also Deacon John Seymour and family, all of whom had removed to the Firelands, as early as 1824 or 1825. From their representations of the country, he was persuaded to follow the "Star of Empire" farther westward, and in Sept., 1828, with his wife and four children, he landed in Sandusky City. Thence he went directly to Cook's Corners, where they were very kindly entertained by Deacon Seymour and family. Col. Smith soon rented and moved into a log house owned by Capt. Strong, on the ridge, in front of the burying ground, where he remained until he purchased what was known as the Hemp Machine property, in 1832, where he removed and carried on the brick making business for several years. In 1837, Col. S. removed to Ridgefield, where he remained engaged in farming until the spring of 1851, when he returned again to Lyme, having purchased the farm formerly owned by Francis Strong, Esq., where he remained until his death, Oct., 1866. During the first years of their residence in Ohio, Col. Smith and wife had the usual experience of Pioneers. Their hearts and

hands were their only capital. In a new country, themselves and a family of small children to support, if they kept want from their household there was no time for idleness, and while the father pursued his outdoor avocations, the mother, beside attending to the immediate wants of the family, made the cabin resound with the buzz of the spinning wheel and rattling of the loom. Their perseverance and industry was rewarded. In their old age they were blessed with an abundance of the comforts of life. On the 21st of Sept., 1865, Col. Smith and wife celebrated their Golden Wedding. His health was very good until the 7th, of Sept. 1866, when he received a paralytic shock from which he rapidly failed, passing quietly from Earth, Oct., 6th, 1866, in the 80th year of his age.

THEN AND NOW, AND STEPS BETWEEN.

RECOLLECTIONS OF HALF A CENTURY.

BY B. SUMMERS.

To the inquiring mind it is ever interesting to trace society through its various stages from the era of Pioneer life to the higher civilization of that more polished state which succeeds.

The first settlement of this N. E. section of the Fire Lands—Vermillion and adjoining Townships—has been pretty fully descibed in former reports of committees; and in this paper we propose to dwell a short time on the state and condition of the country; the natural steps of progress made, and our present condition.

Society in all new settlements is necessarily crude and unformed, especially where settlers come from various states and neighborhoods, and as in our case originally, also of various nationalities.

It takes time to break down the habits and prejudices of such materials into an homogeneous mass, and assimilate them into a well ordered society. A new country however, where neighbors are few and far between, where most, if not all, are poor and dependent and where mutual hardships and dangers are to be encountered, is the place of all others soonest to acomplish the task. Some heart burnings and no little merriment will be visible in the first school opened in such a neighborhood, where the Yankee "*guesses* the *cawes* have a big *paister eout* a doors. "The Pennsylvania German *reckons* the squirrel he hit "wont live no more a gin," and so on through half a dozen provincialisms. But they are mostly poor, and generous hearted. They meet in the wilderness friends; they are brothers and sisters bent on making themselves homes. Each extends the hand of welcome, and if there be true friendship on earth it will be found around the blazing hearth of the new settler, surrounded by his family and new acquaintances. And though

the cheer may be homely and coarse indeed, pone, and dried venison, with water from the spring; pomps and vanities, ambitions and jealousies are banished far away. They meet on an equality, are friends, and happiness is there. We appeal to the heart and experience of every old Pioneer if we have exaggerated ought, if the half even *can* be told by pen and ink.

Although this population may be rudely lodged and fed, grotesquely clothed in homespun and skins intermixed, riding in ox carts over corduroy roads, worshiping in log school houses, "footing it" thirty or forty miles to court, with their pone and venison on their backs, dream not that they were idiots or dolts, that they were ignorant and unintelligent, for you would be mistaken. They were an energetic, laborious, wide awake community of noble men an women, determined to do or die, and they did.

The forest disappeared before the sturdy woodman's ax, mother earth felt the warm sunshine in her bosom after untold ages of deep cold shade. Her sturdy ribs were tickled with the rude bull plow and crotch limbed harrow and she kindly gave forth civilized food and comforts for her industrious children. This is the heroic, the Pioneer age—what we call *then*. We will not dwell—search the back volumes of the Pioneer. Is it not there recorded?

SECOND PERIOD—TRANSITIONAL.

The second step or era in our history may be placed about fifteen or twenty years later. The country has become partially opened the stumps have disappeared from some fields. Frame barns and houses and even brick and stone ones begin to exhibit their fair proportions; meeting houses with steeples pointing heavenward; school houses of better build appear. The corduroy roads are being covered with gravel; turnpiking, or throwing up a road way has begun. Horses and horse wagons begin to supersede the ox and cart. Even a rough sort of pleasure carriages begin to venture out on the now improved highways. The great work of a great man, (Dewitt Clinton,) the N. York canal, has been finished, and a market for our surplus productions is opened, and homespun and deer skin are waging uncertain warfare with the more gaudy and fashionable products of the far off world. Our young men in stove pipe hats, and broadcloth coats, and buxom lasses in Leghorn bonnets, and French Calicoes, scarcely seem of the same genus with their brothers and sisters of the buck skin pants, and homely plaids of the other day.

It is a transition period. New lands are yet being occupied, log houses are yet being built, new settlers are yet coming in. But they meet not the old hearty welcome. The old settlers are becoming independent. Family connections and neighborhood associations, cliques and parties have grown up. It is a cold reception the new comer receives compared with what would have been his, twenty years ago. And yet there is room; he is welcome, but we want to find out something about the family before we make free with them; and very worthy people are kept at a social quarantine tedious months if not years. There is no longer a necessity for "sitting up nights" to consume our surplus products. There is a demand for wheat and pork, and corn too in the shape of whiskey. Money which has hitherto played a very small part in transactions begins to appear coyly and hesitatingly, but it begins to act its part. If a change of a horse into a wagon is desired, it is no longer necessary to hunt up the man who is also desirous of changing a wagon

into a horse, before a trade can be made.

Barter is still however in vogue, but a difference of 25 to 50 per cent. is made between the two systems. Cotton shirting and sheeting are attainable; an increased impetus is given to all branches of industry. The county seat and a few villages, begin to put on airs, wear fine clothes and affect not to notice passers-by. But we had no villages in this N. E. section then, and our habits were still of nearly the Pioneer type.

THE CREDIT PERIOD.

The third step or epoch may be placed about the year 1830, to '45. The productions of our country had now become large. Wheat and pork, had become the principal staples. Large quantities were annually shipped to eastern ports. The balance of trade ought to have been in our favor, but with plenty of money and successful speculations of all kinds, luxurious habits of dress and living had become common. Every body was in debt because every body could get rich in a little time buying cheap and selling at big profits. Farmers bought all the land adjoining, built fine houses and barns, and made extensive improvements. Merchants bought extensive stocks of goods of N. York, on credit, and all classes bought largely of the merchants, likewise on credit. Mechanics bought raw material on credit, and worked it up on credit, and sold on credit. The Banker built his bank, got his bills printed, and bought his gold and silver, for the vaults, on credit. There were no fears but all could meet their engagements, when every thing bore a high price, and the banks made unlimited sums of money and would lend to all who had good credit. And who had not?

This may be properly denominated the era of credit. When *Presto*! suddenly, as a clap of thunder in a clear sky, all is changed. The banks cannot redeem their worthless promises to pay; their customers cannot pay the banks. The people cannot pay the country merchants, the country merchants cannot pay the city dealers, and there is a dead lock every where. Long, long years of patient toil, of hard struggles, of rigid economy, brought many through these deep waters of general bankruptcy, while thousands went down never to rise again. Many farms changed hands, some almost broken-hearted left again to renew the conflict with a newer country in the still receding west.

Sad as was the reverse, a great impetus had been given to the material prosperity of the country. Towns and villages had sprung up as by magic. The original log hut had been nearly superseded by fine mansions; farms, fences, stock, orchards, had been much improved. Extensive revivals of Religion had spread through all our settlements. The Temperance Reformation had had its rise and culmination during this period. The religious and moral tone and habits of society had been vastly improved. Free schools had been adopted into the state legislation; canals and turnpikes, had opened up extensive and convenient routes of travel and commerce, and the country had fairly launched forth on that almost unprecedented career of prosperity to which the next epoch carried her.

Within this period, Vermillion and Birmingham, became villages of some note. Florence, and Berlinville, and Berlin Hights, made some pretensions to importance. Iron ore, had been discovered. A company called the Huron Iron Co., really a branch of the old Geauga Co., erected a blast furnace 2 miles south of the village of Virmillion, and for twenty years did an exten-

sive business in Pig Iron, Stoves, Kettles, Plows, &c., and cleared off large tracts of land which had been considered nearly worthless.

About the middle of this period, also, it was first known that white fish, which have since so greatly added to the incomes and comfort of this people, frequented these waters. The population had increased also, very rapidly, by natural increase and a large influx from abroad, which had considerably modified the manners and customs.

About 1828 to 1835, Vermillion received a large accession from Maryland—John and James Black and their families, Perry Darby, Horatio and Elias Lowe, Isaiah, Wesley and James Driver, and others, most of whom were thrifty and industrious families. Several German families also, about this time settled on a tract of what had been considered nearly worthless land, lying between the ridge and the lake shore farms, and have succeeded by the patient toil they are so celebrated for, in making tolerable farms. C. L. Burton, then a young man, began business merchandising at the village about this time, and by strict integrity and business habits, from small beginnings became with J. W. Pierce, his partner, wealthy and honorable, both of them having represented the county of Erie in the legislature, and now retired to Chicago, as a fitter place for their means and talents. The Vermillion and Ashland Railway had been projected on stilts, much money, principally of the State, expended on it, and abandoned for want of more. The village had been regularly laid out. Water and City lots sold at fabulous prices, and some sixty thousand dollars of national funds were expended in harbor improvements, making a tolerable harbor, and ship-building was becoming a business. Warehouses and docks were being built, and large amounts of wheat, pork and staves bought and shipped.

Political parties had not crystalized into shape during the pioneer period. Politics as a trade was unknown. The settler had enough to do without. Candidates for public favor, (patriots of that sort were not scarce even then,) appealed, themselves, or their friends for them, to the public, depending on their personal popularity for success. The theory was, "every tub on its own bottom," and the people were supposed to be capable of choosing their public servants as they did their private ones, without the intervention or dictation of self-appointed parties, party cliques, caucuses or conventions. Happy day! alas, never to return. For about the beginning of this period, 1825–6, the caucusing, wire-pulling system which had been successfully introduced into New York politics, by the arch manager, Van Buren, whereby a few men manage and dispense the offices in a township, a few more at the county seat do the same for the county, and a few more kindly take the State's interests in charge, and a few more that of the United States, had begun its oily reign. Under this system the people are nearly relieved of responsibility, only being required statedly to go to the polls and ratify the selections so kindly cut and dried for them.

So successful has it worked, that in some counties where the people are very strongly on one side, the wire-pullers have been known to coolly apportion out the offices to each other for years ahead, and the simple people win glorious victories every election casting their ballots for them.

With one party thus organized and the other not, it became a fight of veterans against an unorganized mob; and now we entered on a career of partizan politics which has

continued to the present day. Immense meetings addressed by the most brilliant orators became common. Hickory poles, hickory boughs, hickory pies, hickory whiskey, (and hickory faces too often) became the signs under which the hero of New Orleans ruled supreme over the land and in the affections of his adherents, not to say worshipers.

In 1840, amid the most intense excitement, the ladies were brought into the field for the first time by the opposition, and under the Log cabin, coon skin, hard cider standards, the enemy was most signally routed, horse, foot and dragoons. Sober, moral and conscientious whigs deprecated the immoral tendencies of this campaign. Their excuse, a poor one perhaps, but the best they could make, was, that "reason and common sense were unavailing against hickory poles and whiskey; that they must fight the enemy with their own weapons." The presence of the ladies proved cheering and humanizing, and ever since our wives and daughters have participated in political gatherings, and with marked benefit to their good order.

DIGRESSION.

Perhaps we ought to modify the above remarks on the caucus system of politics. In a free State parties will exist. Mr. Van Buren only applied skillfully what had been invented long before. Seeing there will be parties, possibly it is as convenient and as harmless a way of managing them as any. The great evil to be guarded against is too great devotion to party. It is the bent of ignorance to follow implicitly and without question, the lead of those to whom it looks up as superior. And even intelligence is prone to see things from the same stand point with its associates. Hence the tenacity with which we cling to party organizations. This too frequently degenerates into a blind party zeal and devotion by which the citizen feels himself to be the subject and property of the party, and his fealty to it greater than to himself, or his country. Where this is the case the individual is merged in the partizan, loses his self control, and is utterly unfitted for exercising his functions of sovereignty.

Now it is the theory of our republican government that each voter is a sovereign and a subject too. As sovereign he has no more right to part with his sovereignty or to misuse it, than has the king upon the throne to abandon his subjects or abuse his kingly powers. To the extent of his sovereignty all the people of the nation are his subjects, and he is the subject of them all; and all are morally bound to exercise their rights and privileges for the greatest good of all. There is in this latter day too great a disposition to shirk off our individual responsibility on the party and say "Well I couldn't help it, the party did it;" voting right along for the party that did it. There is no obligation of fealty to party that will justify our support of it in a known wrong; and when a man does that he abuses the high trust of American citizenship. It is the old Adamic excuse,—"The woman thou gavest me, &c." The frequency of it occurence and the strong tendency of the masses in that direction, are my excuse for this digression.

FOURTH, OR LIGHTNING AND STEAM PERIOD.

Closing the third period at 1845, and begining the fourth at 1846, several causes combined to make this by far the most progressive of any. The business of the country had been prostrated. The great inflation of an irresponsible paper currency, extravagant over trading and speculations consequent thereon, the sudden and reckless contraction there-

of, in the war of extermination made against it by Presidents Jackson and Van Buren, had thrown commerce and finances back to chaos. In 1844, a Whig Governor and Legislature were elected, and during the next two sessions three very important laws were enacted, which, though strenuously opposed by a powerful and united opposition, commended themselves to the good sense of the people, and mightily helped to stimulate all branches of industry; to wit: "the law levying taxes on all property according to its true value," instead of the old rate system, that failed to reach large interests; the general banking law incorporating the State Banks of Ohio, and regulating the Free and Independent Banks, which gave us a safe, sound and available currency during the whole twenty years of its continuance; and thirdly, the law creating the State Board of Agriculture, and encouraging county and state fairs. The two former received no democratic vote, and the latter but two or three in either house. The labor of perfecting the two former was immense, and to no one is the state so much indebted for them as to the late Hon. Alfred Kelly, of Columbus. The writer hereof will ever feel grateful for that favor of his fellow citizens which permitted him to bear a humble part therein.

The material improvement inaugurated by the latter can scarcely be realized by those who did not see the farming, the tools, the machinery, the fruits and vegetables of twenty years ago. The Fire Lands Agricultural Society was organized immediately, and Fairs instituted, where the sturdy farmers and their families met, looked each other in the face, saw what had been done, what could be done, and what might be expected. This was the beginning of a new era that has made the Fire Lands famous for abundant crops of grain, large and beautiful horses, cattle, sheep, swine, and above all, its splendid apples, peaches, grapes and other fruits. At these fairs the mechanic and inventor exhibit to the wondering gaze of the crowds who attend, their improved implements of all kinds.

The plodding farmer who for decades of years has grubbed his way with the hand-hoe, the bull-plow, the sickle, hand rake, and sweat-producing scythe, pricks up his ears and opens his eyes to the sight of elegant horse cultivators, steel plows, horse rakes, mowers and reapers, pitch forks, threshing machines, &c., &c., nearly all born of the knowledge and competition obtained at Fairs. The knowledge that others are succeeding, stimulates to attempt success ourselves; and a friendly competition has wrought wonders out doors and in.

About this time the telegraph and rail way improvements came into general use, and the prophetic vision of Josiah became a reality. "Every valley became exalted, and every mountain was brought low; and a highway was cast up—many ran to and fro, and knowledge was increased." Verily, when man subdued the terrific lightnings of Heaven, to the flashing of his messages over the earth; and harnessed fire and water to his immense trains of carriages to do his bidding, and even to carry his horses and cattle to market, it marked an era in his progress. It almost turned our country inside out, and reversed the natural order of trade. Interior towns of little importance have become lively centres of traffic, and others on lake and rivers have lost their former prestige. The wonders of Alladin's fabled lamp were nothing to it.

The partial, almost general failure of the great staple crop, wheat, by the depredations of the red midge, about 1853-4, checked prosperity for

a short time, but our enterprising farmers soon changed to the production of cattle, sheep and swine in large quantities, and now fruits, green and dried, constitute a great source of income and comfort.

INCREASED VALUATION OF LAND.

In 1815 the price of land back from the lake shore was two dollars per acres. Previously some had been given to actual settlers. In 1817 immigrants were coming in fast, speculation was rife and four dollars was a common price. In 1825 there had been no general rise on that. About 1830 speculators had become tired of holding on and paying taxes, and in Vermillion and other parts of the Firelands unsaleable lands were sold as low as fifty cents and one dollar, and upwards. Improved farms for the betterments (as they were called) extra, not a very bright prospect as a speculation truly. From 1835 to 1840 improved farms with comfortable buildings, orchards, &c., from twenty to thirty dollars. Even to 1845 there was little if any rise, except the inflation of 1836-7. From that time lands have steadily risen, till in 1860 good farms in country neighborhoods were worth from $40 to $60. Near the close of the rebellion and since, the same have been held on the ridges and lake shore at from $75 to $100, chiefly because of their adaptation to fruit culture and the depreciation of the currency. The buildings, fences and general appearance of the Fire Lands *now* probably compare favorably with those of any other portion of the State or United States, and the shore or ridges within two or three miles of it are considered quite promising for grape culture. There are nearly or quite three hundred acres now in vineyards in Vermillion Township, and perhaps nearly as much in each of the other townships bordering the lake.

SKETCH

OF THE

LIFE AND CHARACTER OF EBENEZER LANE, LL. D.

[*Late Judge of the Supreme Court of Ohio.*]

BY REV. A. NEWTON, NORWALK, OHIO.

On the 17th, of Sept., 1793, Ebenezer Lane first saw the light. He was born at Northampton, Mass., one of those beautiful villages which adorn the valley of the Connecticut River. His father was Capt. Ebenezer Lane, the son of Deacon Ebenezer Lane, of Attleborough, Mass., who was descended from William Lane, an emigrant in 1635, to Dorchester, Mass., from Dorchester, England. His mother was Marian Chandler, a descendant from Henry Wolcott, of Windsor, Conn., and of Matthew Griswold, of Lyme, Conn., a daughter of Matthew Griswold, Governor of Connecticut, who was first married to Charles E. Chandler, Esq., Counsellor of Law, at Woodstock, Conn., whose second husband was Capt. Ebenezer Lane.

At eight years of age, he was sent to a Grammar School at Leicester, in the County of Worcester, where he prepared for College. At the early age of 14, he entered the University of Cambridge, and graduated in 1811. To the same class, belonged Rev. N. L. Frothingham, D. D. a distinguished Clergyman of Boston, Edward Reynolds, M. D., an eminent Physican of the same City, and the late Edward Everett, whose ripe scholarship, finished oratory, and polished manners, gave him a trans-Atlantic fame. Young Lane did not aim at distinction in the studies of the College course, though he maintained a respectable standing for scholarship. He began while yet a student to develop that mental trait, which became so prominent in after life—a fondness for general knowledge—leading to an acquaintance with all kinds of books, particularly books of history. So extensive and accurate was this acquaintance, that he was called "*the walking library*". In addition to the prescribed studies of the course, he had learned the French language.

Soon after leaving College, he commenced the study of Law at Lyme, Conn., with his uncle Judge Matthew Griswold. He began the practice of Law at Norwich, Sept. 14, 1814—during our war with Great Britain. Three months afterwards he moved to East Windsor, and subsequently to Windsor Hill. He was made a Notary Public for Hartford County, May 21, 1816, by commission from Gov. John Cotton Smith.

After the close of the war in 1815,

a spirit of emigration to the West was awakened in New England. The Western Reserve, from the fact that it had been owned by the State of Connecticut, and that by its situation on the lake shore, it was more easily reached than other portions of the West, attracted much of the emigration of that period.

The profession of the Law in Connecticut, seemed to Mr. Lane to be overcrowded, and he thought better opportunities of success would be found in the West. So he concluded to become an emigrant, and cast in his lot with those who were making the Western Reserve their future home. On the 20th of Feb., 1817, in the 24th year of his age, he left Massachusetts with his step-brother, Heman Ely. They came by wagon, through Albany and Buffalo, and reached Elyria on the 17th of March, three days less than a month from the time they started.

I have no means of determining the population of the Reserve at that time. But Cleveland was only a small village, Norwalk had hardly an existence, and Elyria was yet to take its name from Mr. Ely, its chief proprietor. The prospect for immediate and extensive legal business in so new a country could not have been very flattering. But Mr. Lane could not think of being idle, and so he purchased a farm of moderate size, that he might have occupation when unengaged in the business of his profession. He afterward regarded the time he spent on this farm as of much value to him intellectually, inasmuch as it forced upon him the habit of closely observing external nature.

On the 29th of October, 1817, he left Cleveland for New England, going by the way of Pittsburgh, Harrisburg and Philadelphia, performing the journey on foot, in twenty days. He thus showed not only that he possessed great power of physical endurance, but that higher intellectual and moral force which enabled him successfully to cope with the difficulties and hardships of pioneer life. This pedestrian tour of seven hundred miles, doubtless also reacted on his character, and strengthened him for those arduous journeys he was obliged afterwards to take over bad roads in his judicial circuit, in the performance of his professional duties.

He returned to Elyria by stage, through Buffalo, Feb. 5, 1818. He re-visited New England, Oct. 1, and was married Oct. 11th, of the same year, to Frances Ann, daughter of Gov. Roger Griswold, of Lyme, Connecticut. Returning to Ohio, Nov. 1st, the newly married pair commenced house-keeping, on the farm in Elyria.

But farming was not to be his leading pursuit. His purpose was unshaken to follow the profession of the law. The population of this part of the Reserve was increasing. The county seat originally at Avery, in the township of Milan, had, after a good deal of trouble and delay, been located at Norwalk. This place therefore seemed to hold out stronger inducements to the young lawyer than Elyria, and accordingly he removed to Norwalk on the 10th of October, 1819. The journey from Elyria to Norwalk was performed on horseback—Mrs. Lane riding one horse and her husband riding another, he carrying their infant child upon a pillow in his arms. They were two days on the road, and passed the night at the house of Mr. Leonard, in Henrietta.

The house which they occupied for twenty years afterwards, had been commenced. The only part erected, the kitchen, was in an unfinished state. The roof and siding were on, but the floor was of unplaned boards lying loose. The doors were not hung, and there was no chimney.

Mrs. Lane did her cooking for the first two weeks out of doors by a stump. Thus they passed the winter. Notwithstanding such poor accommodations—such ill protection from the inclemencies of the season, they all enjoyed excellent health.†

Mr. Lane had been appointed Prosecuting Attorney for Huron County in May, 1819. In this capacity it became his duty to prosecute two Indians by the names of Negoshetek and Negoneba, for the murder of two men, Wood and Bishop, on Portage River. They were convicted and hung in Norwalk, July 1, 1819.

On the 8th of January, 1822, he was admitted as Attorney at Law in the U. S. Circuit Court at Columbus. About two years after, he was appointed Judge of Common Pleas, of the Second Circuit. He commenced as Judge in Union county, April 19, 1824; but there being no business to be done, he presided at the Delaware Court held two days after. In this office he continued six years, when he was appointed Judge of the Supreme Court of Ohio. His first session was held at Piketon, in 1830. In December, 1837, he was re-appointed by commission from Gov. Bartley.

He had been on the Bench more than twenty years, and had been separated from his family by reason of his official duties, in the aggregate, half of this period. And though naturally of the most active and stirring habits, yet he had arrived at that period of life, when he felt the need of the quiet influences of home and the domestic circle. He had discharged the duties of his responsible office most faithfully. He had long served the State in one of its most important departments, and who could reasonably complain if he should, at the age of 52, lay aside the burdens of office and retire to private life. He accordingly resigned his commission as Chief Justice of Ohio, in February, 1845. He had removed from Norwalk to Sandusky in July, 1842.

At the period of his resignation, Rail Roads began to be projected in Ohio, and the discerning eye of Judge Lane saw that this interest would be one of great and growing importance in our state and country. Known all over the state to be a man of the highest integrity and judicious in the management of his own affairs —known favorably also in other states through his high official position, he was chosen President of the Columbus and Erie, the Mad River, and the Junction Rail Roads. The prestige of his name was felt by these corporations. The confidence of the community in them was strengthened; and though like many similar enterprises in the country, they may not have been profitable to the share holders, they have been of immense value in developing the resources of the portions of the state through which the roads are carried.

He passed the next 10 years of his life mainly in the management of the Rail Roads already named; yet giving all his leisure hours to books with which his library was amply stored.

His love of knowledge seemed to increase with his years, and he devoted himself to its acquisition with a persistent enthusiasm which is rarely found at that period of life. But a man of such capacity for business, of such tried integrity, and of so wide a legal reputation, could not be hid. The great Central Rail Road of Illinois wanted a man to look after its interests and to give direction to its affairs, and Judge Lane was

† As an illustration of the privations and hardships of Pioneer life, especially to women who had been accustomed to all the comforts and elegancies of the best New England families, I may state that in the absence of Mr. Lane, and with no domestic help, Mrs. Lane was obliged to milk the cow. At one time, while performing this operation, she had to leave it six times to go in and soothe the crying baby as it was lying on the floor.

elected Counsel and Resident Director of that Corporation, in Nov., 1855. He removed to Chicago, and continued in this office until March 16, 1859.

He was now in his 66th year, of sound health, his mental faculties unimpaired, his thirst for knowledge unabated. His mind was richly stored with the knowledge which books can give, but he had never permitted himself to enjoy the luxury of foreign travel, and to gather knowledge from beyond the ocean by personal observation. He resolved on a visit to Europe. He resigned his office in the Illinois Central Rail Road, and embarked at Boston for Liverpool in the steamer Arabia, March 23, 1859.

An extract from his Journal written on the day of his departure, setting forth the objects and motives of this visit, will furnish an interesting illustration of his character.

"My life has been spent chiefly in the service of others. From 21 to 31, while exercising the profession of Law, my object was to gain a living. Emigrating at the age of 23 was the first break in a student's monotony. The two years I spent in Elyria were very profitable in giving me access to external nature, and in forcing upon me the power of observation. From my 31st year until my 52d year I was upon the Bench. It was a new field, inducing new studies, or rather old studies from a new stand point. From my 52d year until this my 65th year, I have been a servant of Rail Road Corporations. Last week on Wednesday evening I closed my engagement with the Illinois Central Rail Road, and now I am my own master. My first object is to separate myself entirely from my former business, and feel myself aloof from all such engagements. My next is to make an entire change in the manner of my life—to cut off the habitual current of my thoughts, and to acquire new courses of thinking and living. My third is to see new forms of life, manners, natural objects and works of antiquity, and to compare them by such as I now know. I know I cannot see every thing. I shall try to pass without regret such as I cannot witness. I do not intend to keep an account of all I can see, but will leave such descriptions for the Guide Book. My purpose here is to set down my own thoughts and feelings subjectively, designing it to be a commentary upon other books of travel and not a book of travels itself."

From this extract it will be seen that his object was not mere relaxation from toil, nor the gratification of an idle, aimless curiosity, but to change the course of his life, and to have access to new sources of knowledge by personal observation. Improvement, intellectual acquisition, adding to his mental stores, was the object of this step. To carry into effect this purpose would involve great industry, self-control and perseverance. To make the tour of Europe as many do, with no definite object but to break the monotony of professional toil, or to recover health, or from the vain desire of that prestige which foreign travel confers—to do this in the prime of life, before the mental habits have become fixed and rigid by age, involves no great mental exertion, and in fact, is rather a pastime than a labor. But the tour proposed by Judge Lane, demanded hard labor; and when it is remembered that this was undertaken by a man within five years of his three score and ten, it furnishes a striking illustration of the strength of his ruling passion the love of knowledge.

He arrived at Liverpool on the 14th of April. From thence, in two or three days he proceeded to London. This city he made his chief residence during the four weeks he passed in

England. His time was fully employed in visiting the places and objects which have become world renowned in this great metropolis of our father-land. He made excursions into the country around, visiting Cathedrals, Churches, Abbeys, and whatever else could awaken interest in a mind devoted to the pursuit of knowledge. No day was willingly unemployed. If prevented from sight-seeing by rain, or by illness, as he sometimes was—he laments it as an unprofitable day.

From London he went to Paris. In his journal he records an incident which illustrates the thoroughness with which he meant to do the work of exploration in this celebrated French capital. Although he could read the French language in books with nearly as much facility as his own, yet he found he could not pronounce it well in conversation. He therefore put himself immediately under a native instructor, and for three or four weeks, spent an hour each day in reciting his lessons, with all the punctuality of a school boy.

After spending about seven weeks in France he proceeded to Brussels, Antwerp, Rotterdam and Amsterdam, devoting only about a week to these old Dutch cities. On the 8th of July he reached Berlin, the capital of Prussia; visited its University and its great library of 600,000 volumes, its museum, containing a large collection of busts and pictures, and the remains of the 1st and 2d Frederick, and heard the celebrated Michelet lecture on Aristotle.

From Berlin he went to Prague, "a half Asiatic city," as he terms it, of Bohemia, in Austria, and celebrated in history as the birthplace of Jerome, the martyr, and the residence of Wallenstein, the Austrian General. Returning to Dresden he visited Leipsic, which he could not explore satisfactorily on account of the heat of the weather, and went to Nuremburg, in Bavaria. His impressions of this place are thus expressed in his journal of July 23d: "This is Nuremburg! A place I have longed to see, and which fully answers expectations. To describe it is beyond my power, but Murray is eloquent and I leave the task to him. My notes must relate to my experiences only, and they are of such a character that not one-tenth of the feelings which beset me are capable of expression. I feel in the midst of the Middle Ages. All around me seems to have been built then, or the restorations are so complete as admits no allusion to the present, and even examples of the mediæval costumes are to day seen in the streets."

Spending only two days here, he next went to Frankfort, which he terms a town of moneyed aristocrats, Jews, bankers. Almost the only object of interest to him in this well built town was the house in which was born the great German poet, Goethe.

Taking a steamer at Mayence, he sailed down the Rhine to Cologne, and back again the next day to Mayence. Of this trip he says: "I hope I shall ever retain my recollections of this excursion. The days were fair; the first clear, bright sunshine, the second cloudy, with occasional streaks of sun. I remained on deck the whole day, enjoying and comparing the scenery with a sail on the Hudson, the Upper Mississippi, and the St. Lawrence—all different and all of equal beauty."

Soon after this he went to Switzerland, where he spent three or four weeks visiting every place of historical interest, and from thence made his way into Italy. His inquisitive mind found abundant occupation in exploring the cities of this ancient country and in examining the works of art, both ancient and modern,

which he found on every hand. After a residence of nearly two months in the dominions of the Pope, he returned to England, through France, and reached London on the 10th of February, 1860. Here he remained until April 14th, when he sailed for New York, which he reached on the 27th. He was absent from home a few days more than one year and one month.

This European tour was a marvel of industry and energy for a man so far advanced in life. His journal and his letters to his family show constant occupation. He carried the same habits of regularity and order and dilligent improvement of time abroad that he had followed at home. Qualified as few men are for such a visit, by a large fund of various knowledge, he made this trip one of great intellectual benefit. His journal, if published, would make a volume of more solid worth and enduring interest than nine-tenths of the books of this kind which issue from the press.

No man thought less of titles and names of honor than Judge Lane, since they are often conferred by favoritism or by the hope of patronage. But sometimes they are bestowed under such circumstances that they are a valuable testimony to the worth of him who receives them. Such was the degree of LL. D. which he received from Harvard University—his Alma Mater—in 1850. Richly endowed as this institution is with the gifts of the opulent, and enjoying a high reputation as a seat of learning, it could have no other motive for bestowing its honors on a Western man, than a desire to recognize and reward distinguished merit.

In September, 1856, he was elected member of the New England Historical and Genealogical Society. He was also a member of the New York Historical Society, the Ohio Historical Society, and the Chicago Historical Society.

After his return from Europe, having no public business, he gave himself more exclusively to his studies than ever. His library enriched with many new books of great value, procured on his foreign tour, became more than ever his home. Here he was glad to welcome his friends, who found him always ready to communicate from those abundant stores which he had collected abroad. With faculties unimpaired he passed his time enlarging, systematizing and perfecting his knowledge, mingling but little in the affairs of the world around him. Some of his friends wished that he had been less retiring, but he had given many years exclusively to the public, and why might he not properly be allowed to spend the few years that remained of his life in comparative seclusion?

Judge Lane had enjoyed almost uninterrupted bodily health. Once (in 1829) he suffered an attack of bilious fever, which terminated in typhoid. His robust physical constitution, his regular habits, his plain and simple style of living, contributed to preserve him from the attacks of disease to which he was so much exposed in the discharge of his professional duties in a newly settled country. He reached his three score years and ten in sound health, showing little of the infirmities of age. But about a year or two before his death he began to be troubled with a soreness on the tongue, which proved to be an incipient cancer. This was removed and he hoped that he might be spared the affliction of dying of this dreaded disease. But it reappeared in a few months afterwards in the throat and about the neck. Its rapid progress soon made it evident that the disease was incurable; but the knowledge of this fact gave him no

alarm. He had already set his house in order. For more than 30 years he had been a worthy communicant in the Episcopal Church and had evinced to all who best knew him a true Christian spirit. He met his last sickness with calm resignation to the divine will. He felt that his work was done and that he was going home. He was mercifully spared a long and painful sickness. He rapidly grew weak; his flesh wasted away, and he sunk quietly into the arms of death on the 12th of June, 1866. On the 14th his funeral was attended at his house, with that unostentatious simplicity which befitted the character of the man. His remains were borne to Oakland Cemetery, in Sandusky, eight lawyers acting as pall-bearers.

In the intellectual character of Judge Lane rapidity of movement was a marked feature. He early became a great reader, and the rapidity with which he would dispatch a book was astonishing. Most would infer that his acquisitions must have been superficial, but further acquaintance would soon correct the impression. He had the faculty to a degree I never have seen equaled of gathering from a book all that was valuable in an incredibly short time. He had learned the art of seizing upon the main thoughts of a writer, no matter how much they were drawn out or incumbered with verbiage, and treasuring up these alone in the storehouse of his memory. His library was probably the largest and best selected private library in the State. It was especially rich in historical works. It contained many works in the French and German languages, and yet all the books of this library of 4000 volumes had been read by Judge Lane. It was this power of selection, combined with a retentive memory, that qualified him in no small degree for his office as Judge. He did not need to wade through page after page, and section after section of the ponderous books of law in order to sustain his conclusions by precedents and authorities. He seized upon the important matters at once and brought them to bear immediately upon the point at issue.

His mind was not only rapid in its movement but clear in its conceptions. There was no haziness about his expression as if he saw intellectual objects only in a dim twilight. He thought clearly and his words were chosen to represent them clearly to others. His decisions on the Bench were models of clearness, conciseness and condensation of thought and style. He once delivered before a literary association in Norwalk, two lectures on the history of Greece and Rome, which exhibited these qualities in a remarkable degree. He told the story of these two nations in a style of such simplicity, clearness and compactness, in words so well chosen—he blended narrative and comment in such nice proportion, and pointed out so clearly the influence which these nations respectively had exerted upon the destinies of the world, that every hearer felt richly repaid for the hour given to each of these performances. Another lecture delivered in Sandusky, on Italy, in 1861, exhibits similar characteristics.—There are few addresses of the kind given by the most celebrated men of the present day before literary associations, which surpass or equal these in intrinsic merit.

For his character as lawyer and judge I must rely mainly on the testimony of those who were associated with him in the legal profession. As an advocate he was not what would be called eloquent. He did not possess that faculty of expanding details which ordinary lawyers have, and with which they win success at the bar. But though he could not

be called an eloquent advocate, yet he always presented the case of his clients clearly and concisely. In his address to the Jury he made brief statements of the facts and then directed his arguments to the Court. While Prosecuting Attorney he gave entire satisfaction.

An early associate* of Judge Lane, and who came to Norwalk about the same time, says: "Judge Lane had no superior on the Bench, if an equal. His legal knowledge was extensive and accurate. He was particulary versed in chancery law. His decisions were always marked by clearness and precision. His place has never been filled."

†Another of his friends bears this testimony: "He was the only lawyer to whom I ever applied for information or counsel who *never* disappointed me. He always gave me what I wanted, or told me where to find it. He came to the Bar when the jurisprudence of Ohio was yet not settled, and brought to its cultivation great general ability, patient research, both in civil and common law and logical power and acumen. His thorough knowledge of the civil law and his varied and extensive and accurate historical learning, qualified him to compare the systems of our several States and of other countries, and to educe the great principles which lie at the foundations of all systems of jurisprudence. Ohio will never fully understand how much she is indebted to Judge Lane and those like him, who, before and with him, wrought at the foundation of our social security and general happiness and progress as a State. His genial sphere was in legal and historical study, rather than the routine of courts and the practical and rough realities and contests of life. His erudition was more various than was commonly supposed. His mind, cultivated by the study of both the civil and the common law, enabled him to grasp and apply the great principles of equity, jurisprudence, and his preference for chancery practice, and his great appreciation of the principles applied to the law of insurance arose from these circumstances."

*Another of his legal friends thus speaks of him: "I first met him at his house, in Norwalk, in 1834. He was then one of the Judges of the Court in Bank. For many years afterwards I met him in different counties where he sat as Judge, and always in the winter at Columbus. He was a man of thorough education and scholarly tastes, of high moral tone, and his example had great weight with the younger members of the bar. He was one of the most indefatigable readers and workers, always in sympathy with equity and right—a man of great integrity and purity of purpose, and his judicial decisions had that weight, morally as well as legally, which makes an upright, conscientious judge a power in the government. His published opinions in the Ohio Reports are clear and forcible, always well sustained by authority. But such was his condensation of thought and style that all these opinions, running through a period of many years, do not probably cover as much space in the reports as a single opinion of a later day. This condensation more than anything else exhibits Judge Lane's mind and habits of thought. During his whole judicial life his influence was felt for good over the State. A man of large reading, a student, thinker, scholar and Christian gentleman, he was, during all that period, in the very front rank if not the leading man among the lawyers and judges of Ohio."

A man so highly qualified for his

*James Williams, Esq., Norwalk.
†C. L. Latimer, Esq., Cleveland.

*John W. Andrews, Esq., Columbus.

elevated position, so much esteemed by his professional brethren, could not but be greatly missed when he resigned; and it is not strange that they should have thought that his exchange of the Bench for the Presidency of railroad corporations, was the great mistake of his life.

He was a man of spotless purity and integrity. This he evinced in private life, at the Bar and on the Bench. No man could be less warped by self-interest or party spirit or favoritism from the plain path of justice and the fearless application of its principles to every case that came before him. This characteristic was universally admitted. He had the confidence of all men of all parties, as a man that walked uprightly.

Says Mr. Latimer: "He was one of the purest men whom I ever met. It was my privilege in early life to be admitted to great freedom of conversation and intercourse with him and in his family, and I can think of no suggestion or expression or act that casts a shadow upon the purest sunlight. His integrity seemed constitutional and was of the same stamp as that of Chief Justice Marshall. If he endorsed a note he felt bound to pay it, if the maker did not, whether the rules of law were complied with or not; and the debts or promises which the courts ignore as 'contrary to good morals,' he regarded as binding in conscience."

He was a man of a kindly spirit. He sympathized with the poor and degraded, and exerted himself for the improvement of their condition. The first act of the Legislature of Ohio for the regulation of county jails, providing for their sanitary and moral supervision, was suggested and drawn up by him. This act consists of fifteen sections. It is framed with great care, and aims to secure the physical comfort and intellectual and moral elevation of the prisoners throughout the State, so far as is compatible with their necessary confinement. An examination of this act in all its details would show that the originator was moved by a spirit of genuine Christian philanthrophy. It was passed in 1843. Seventeen years afterwards we find this act among the recorded statutes of the State, without a clause or a word altered—the experience of so long a time evincing the wisdom and the excellence of the original draft.

Judge Lane was a warm friend of popular education. "His efforts in the cause," says Mr. Andrews, "were large and valuable, and he was among the first to appreciate and make known to our people the value of the system of public schools which is now the pride of the State."

He was not a man to make noisy demonstrations. He seldom addressed a popular assembly. He chose a more quiet method. The following incident related by Mr. Andrews, will illustrate his mode of exerting an influence and bringing about a good result on any subject of general importance: About the year 1836 a book was published in New York called "The School and School Master. "Its object was to furnish the best methods of instruction for public schools. The author presented a copy of this book to every school district in the State of New York, and sent a hundred copies or more to a gentleman in this State. Its distribution here Judge Lane took upon himself. As he went over his circuit he left one volume at least in nearly every county. From this seed thus widely scattered grew up in a few years that goodly tree of our common schools, which is bringing forth such precious fruit. "It was at his suggestion also," says Mr. Andrews, "that Dr. A. D. Lord, now Superintendent for the Institution for the Blind, was called to take

charge of the common schools of the city of Columbus, which was among the earliest movements in the direction of popular education in Ohio."

Mr. M. F. Cowdery, Superintendent of Public Schools in Sandusky, and well acquainted with the history of popular education in this State, thus speaks of the influence and agency of Judge Lane in this regard: "I find that the Hon. E. Lane during the period from 1840 to 1845, was acting with other good citizens here, sometimes in public meetings but much more frequently and successfully by his timely counsels, to have established on the firmest and most liberal foundations a free common school system for all the children of Sandusky. I take great pleasure in stating also that in personally visiting many of the counties of the State in company with the late President Lorin Andrews, we found that Judge Lane had often done more for the promotion of free schools in other cities by his wise and earnest counsels than the best citizens themselves had done; and that through his intelligent forecast the cause of popular education in Ohio in this way was, twenty years since, most ably and efficiently promoted. The quietness, seemingly *studied* quietness, with which all this was done would have escaped all observation, had not interested friends been in pretty constant and intimate communication with each other with regard to these great public interests. It was the habit of Judge Lane, we learned, while visiting the different portions of the State in his official capacity, to seek interviews with the most intelligent and influential citizens, and place before them in strong and clear light the importance and practicability of good, free, public schools, and this at a time, it should be remembered, when all such words of advice and warning were most urgently needed, and when the force of distinguished ability and the influence of an unblemished private life, associated with high official position, could act most powerfully for good for the great public interests of the State."

Of Judge Lane's benevolent and kindly spirit and regard for the public welfare there is abundant evidence in the testimony already given and in the recollections of those who best knew him in Norwalk, the place of his former residence. His self-forgetfulness,* his great modesty, his utter repugnance to all ostentatious display, his disposition to hide himself—too much, it was sometimes thought for the interests of the public which he served—were eminently characteristics of our deceased friend. How much he bestowed in money upon objects of charity for these reasons can not be ascertained. It is known, however, that the poor and needy did not look to him in vain—that they felt that he was their friend. His pastor, Rev. Dr. Bronson, says that he gave one-tenth of his gains to the cause of benevolence. As an instance illustrative of the measure and mode of his benefactions, he says: "I remember once when in a discourse I spoke of building a chapel in the Liberties; after church he took me away into the basement alone and said, 'you may depend on me for $100.' In building St. Ann's, knowing that he was in no lucrative business, I had not thought of asking him for anything. One day while superintending the work, Judge Lane came there, I suppose to look

*As an instance of his self-forgetfulness and regard for the convenience and comfort of others, I mention a fact on the authority of Dr. Bronson: A clergyman from the banks of the Ohio was passing through Wooster, and with his wife stopped at the hotel where Judge Lane was. It being court time the house was much crowded, rendering it difficult to obtain a suitable room. The Judge, on ascertaining that he was a clergyman, vacated his own room in his behalf. "It was deeply felt," says Dr. Bronson, "that a Judge of the Supreme Court should give up his room in an overcrowded hotel to a humble clergyman who was a stranger."

at the building. I took him around to look at the place, and when alone he slipped $100 into my hand, at a time I very much needed it. So unostentatious were his charities."

He was a warm friend of young men and assisted them much, particularly young lawyers.

Of his industry scarcely more need be said than that a man who could find time to read 4000 volumes, in addition to the reading required by his profession, in a life, of which twenty years were passed on the Bench of Ohio, must have been of extraordinary industry and activity. He uniformly rose at five through the year, and passed the time until six in his study. "He probably," says Mr. Latimer, "spent more hours in study before most men were up, than most lawyers spend during the whole day."

He was plain and frugal in his habits and style of living. In his household appointments, his equipage, his dress, there was a studied plainness. In the latter he consulted his comfort and convenience, rather than the fashion. The only item in which he seemed extravagant was in that of books. These he would have, cost what they might. He was strictly temperate in eating and drinking. He indulged in no expensive pleasures and in no filthy habits engendered by the use of tobacco in any of its forms.

He never incurred debts. It was a principle with him to buy nothing until he could pay for it. So rigidly was this principle acted upon in the family, that whenever any member had occasion to make a purchase of goods without having the money in hand, the article was laid aside and left until the money was paid.

In his intercourse with his family there was great freedom, "among his children himself a child." And yet he was most successful in training them up "in the way they should go." The honor of the success however, may be justly shared in by his worthy companion who survives him; since in his absence from home, much of their training must have devolved upon her. She always "looked well to the ways of her household. Her children arise up and call her blessed, her husband also and he praiseth her." Both of them met the little annoyances of life with a cheerful equanimity and adapted themselves to the circumstances of a new country. They had good sense enough not to expect the refinement of a New England village in the woods of Ohio; and their habitual kindness of feeling forbade any expression of disgust at the violation of the conventionalities of an older state of society. Hence the popularity of Judge Lane and his worthy consort, in their own neighborhood a popularity not gained by humoring the prejudices or conniving at the vices of those by whom they were surrounded, but by a uniform course of sensible and kindly treatment.

To the valuable characteristics already enumerated was added in Judge Lane's character the spirit and practice of true religion. This indeed was the moral basis of his character, and made him what he was in the relations he sustained to his fellow men. His natural modesty, his almost morbid reluctance to be conspicuous, his constitutional timidity made him reticent in great measure on the subject of his own experience and feelings. But to his friends and all who intimately knew him, he gave the best evidence of his possession of piety in the character of his daily walk. He was blessed with a pious mother to guide his early childhood. He grew up to a virtuous manhood. At what time he became a christian I do not know. But the first day of his house keeping he instituted prayer in his

family, which he continued through life. It was not however until 1834, that he made a public profession. He was confirmed a member of the Episcopal church by Bishop McIlvain, in that year.

He was more conversant than any other layman I ever knew, with the theological peculiarities of different religious denominations, and he was especially so with the development of religious thought in Germany for the last 35 years. Yet while so many calling themselves intelligent both in this country and Europe have, through the influence of German rationalists, renounced their faith in a supernatural religion, Judge Lane stood firm on the old ground of Orthodox Christianity.

Mr Latimer truly says of him: "He accepted revealed religion without surrendering his rational faculties, and used all the lights of reason without being a rationalist. His teachings and conversation indicated that he expected salvation by grace and rested his evidence and hope of such salvation upon his patient continuance in well doing, and perhaps what he most valued in every christian was an abiding hearty practical interest in the earthly kingdom of Christ." Though he was a member of the Episcopal church, and intelligently preferred its polity and forms of worship to any other, yet he was one of the most catholic of men. He said to one of his friends, "I am so low church, that I sometimes think I am no churchman."

He loved the christian spirit under whatever form it was manifested. Hence he was ready to assist other denominations in their efforts to sustain themselves, believing that as the world is, each has its sphere of duty and usefulness in the great work of evangelizing the race.†

He was favorable to Sunday Schools and was Superintendent of the first Sunday School organized in Norwalk in which all the denominations participated.

For the Moravians he seemed to cherish a peculiar regard, as if sympathizing with their fervent zeal and their self-denying, self-sacrificing labors for the spiritual good of the poor and ignorant. The Memoir of the Moravian Missions written by him and published in the Pioneer for 1862, evinces thorough research, literary ability and deep sympathy with that suffering band of pious laborers.

Such is a very imperfect view of a great and good man. Well does he deserve to live in our remembrance. In his character, his spirit and his labors he was a public benefactor. He did not live for himself alone. This great and growing State, owes him a lasting debt of gratitude. Every prisoner in her jails, every child in her common schools, and every man who needs the just administration of law will feel the benefit of Judge Lane's influence and labors as long as the State endures.

† As an illustration of Judge Lane's catholic spirit, the reader will pardon a personal allusion to myself. When I came to Norwalk as Minister of the Presbyterian church, I found Judge Lane ready to welcome me to the field of labor. He introduced me to his library and offered to lend me any books that I might wish. From his own church the Rector was absent every 4th Sunday to labor in another field On that Sunday, I was as sure to see Judge Lane and his family in attendance on my services as any of my own people. No man in Norwalk save one ever called on me so often as he, and there was none with that exception, with whom I was on so intimate terms of friendly accquaintance. Every new book he purchased I was sure to have put into my hands or at least offered to my acceptance for reading. And when he broke up house keeping in Norwalk, before he was settled in Sandusky, he filled a large case with some of the most valuable books in his library and deposited them in my study, where I had the care of them for two years From his orchard and garden choice fruits would find their way to my house without my agency, and as the year came round a five dollar bill would be quietly put into my hand from the same source. When our new church edifice was built, he cheerfully rendered assistance and took a pew at the cost of some $200.

SCATTERED SHEAVES No. 5.

BY RUTH.

MRS. KNEELAND TOWNSEND.

In the winter of 1813 and 14, the United States had posession of Fort George and the village of Newark, now Niagara, on the Canada side of the Niagara River. Gen. McClure, was in command. Gideon Frisbee, a Physician, was living with his family, a wife and three children, at 40 mile creek. He had moved into Canada, from the States, in 1809, and was a partnership owner, with one Crooks, of some mills, and other property there. At the commencement of the war of 1812, Frisbee refused to take the oath of allegiance to Great Britain, and was imprisoned. Both before and after his imprisonment, he was offered a favorable position in the British Army, but he steadily refused the bait, and remained loyal to his own government. Finding him capable, he was employed as a clerk, and thus gained some freedom of movement, and, at the battle of Stony Creek, he found means to escape, and join a body of U. S. soldiers, known as Canada Volunteers, who, like himself, had refused to repudiate their native country. They formed a part of Wilcox's corps. Dr. Frisbee, was made captain of one of the companies in this corps, and in cases of necessity also acted as a surgeon. His wife and family still remained at 40 mile creek. Caroline, now Mrs. Kneeland Townsend of Milan, was one of the children, and about nine years of age. While tarrying here, alone and unprotected, a proclamation, offering a bounty of £500 for the capture of the husband and father, was three times read, in front of their house, by an Indian named Johnson. Johnson was a chief similar in position to Brandt. The tories were angry with Frisbee, for the course he had taken, and in revenge, sought to harass and disturb his family. It was through their influence that the proclamation was issued, and to clothe it with special terror, an *Indian* was procured to read it. Indian women were frequently at their house, and the wife of young John Brandt, the son of Joseph Brandt, used to wash and scrub for Mrs. Frisbee. One day, while here, news arrived that a company of Kentucky Volunteers, who had been taken by the British, were on their way to prison, escorted by a British officer, and would pass that way. Mrs. Frisbee and her sister immediately set to work to prepare a hearty meal for them. When they arrived, they were found to be, not only hungry, but scantily clothed. Capt. Frisbee, had kept a store before the war, and many things, such as mocasins, caps, blankets &c., had been left, when he was obliged to flee. By permission of the officer, Mrs. Frisbee was allowed, not only to feed, but to clothe them, as far as

she was able. In an old log house, on the premises, the coarser things from the store had been deposited, and the hungry soldiers were not long in finding a barrel of salted salmon, about two-thirds filled. Obtaining leave of Mrs. Frisbee, they quickly had a large iron kettle, also found there, over a brisk fire and well filled with fish in boiling water. Before the fish were cooked, however, they were ordered to march, and they went off with the hot fishes on sticks or shingles, eating as they went. At this time Frisbee was at Newark, in command of his company. Gen. McClure, being unable to hold either, ordered the burning of Newark, and the evacuation of Fort George. Newark was set on fire about 4 or 5 o'clock, in the afternoon, and at night the U. S. troops crossed to Fort Niagara. On the same night, Mrs. Frisbee, with her family, crossed over to Youngstown, and with a baggage wagon followed the army. She soon learned that a part of the Canada Volunteers had been left, to guard the wounded, and that her husband was among them. As the British, 500 strong, under command of Col. Murray, had already taken possession of Fort George, Gen. McClure, thought it unsafe for the boats to cross again, and had given orders that no more should be sent over. Mrs. Frisbee, almost frantic for the loss of her husband, made her way to the General, and entreated him to send over for the remaining men. He refused. She threatened to take a boat herself, and go for her husband. He commanded that not another boat should be loosened. She went out from his presence, caught up an axe, rushed to the boats, cut the fastening of one, jumped in, and was off for the Canada shore. As she approached it, the current was too strong for her, and she was drifting below the landing. She now perceived that other boats were following, and supposing that they had been sent to overtake and force her back, she put forth unwonted strength and succeeded in gaining the shore. She soon found that the other boats had been sent to bring off the remaining men. It was supposed that the great daring of Mrs. Frisbee, shamed the General, and he reversed his orders. The Canada Volunteers were afterwards stationed at Schlosser House.

One morning, while Mrs. Frisbee was getting breakfast, it was announced that the British were but two miles distant. Immediately all fled—men, women and children—officers and officers wives—leaving the breakfast untouched. As the last were departing, there came in an old man, named Colt, who was wounded in the head. Capt. Frisbee, stopped to dress the wound, and Caroline, held a bowl of water for him. He took his handkerchief from his pocket, washed and dressed the wound, and with his bloody hand took that of his brave little daughter, and ran, leaving his handkerhief in the water in the bowl. As they went out of the back door of the old house, the Indians entered at the gate in front. Colt jumped upon a young horse. The Indians fired upon them but they escaped, and reached their companions unharmed. Major Mallory commanded the Canada Volunteers, and they attempted to stop the progress of the British and Indians, disputing the ground all the way to Tonawanda Creek, the Tuscaroras assisting them, but the enemy was too powerful. They were forced to cross Tonawanda Creek, and camping one night on the ground, to pass on to Black Rock, on their way to Buffalo. Before they reached the latter place they met Judge Gideon Granger. He lived about one mile East of Buffalo, but had, for safety, removed his family to Canandaigua. He told

Capt. Frisbee to put his family into his house, when they should arrive there, which he did, though they were soon obliged to leave it. On the morning of the 30th of December Buffalo was attacked. The news soon reached Granger's house. Before day light, the children were taken out of bed, and without being dressed, so imminent was the danger, were told to run for their lives. Caroline and her little brother ran and climbed into the baggage wagon, supposing that it was to go with them. Capt. Frisbee perceiving this, rode up by the side of the wagon, and said: "No, my dears, not here." He lifted them from the wagon, kissing them as he lowered them down, and told them to run with their mother. Caroline remembers that she could see the heads of the Indians by the flashes when they fired. A little snow had fallen in the night, and the ground was slightly frozen. The children were barefoot, and soon their tracks were made visible by tinges of blood from their little tender feet. Caroline had on but a night gown, and she remembers running on in advance of her mother, sitting down, and tucking the lower part of her dress around her cold feet, to gain a little warmth, while her mother was coming up. The road was full of flying men, women and children. One women was carrying a pair of twins, only one week old, in her arms, with nothing on them but what they had on while sleeping. Mrs. Frisbee tore her own shawl into halves and gave one-half to the poor woman with which to cover her babes. Says Caroline: "so cold was I, that I felt not a little displeased at this transaction, thinking how glad I should have been if mother had given me that half shawl." They arrived at Batavia totally destitute. Neither had they money, for Capt. Frisbee had received no pay, and a single silver dollar was the sum total of the funds in his possession. A woman in a wagon had some Indian Bread, which she was loth to part with, but he persuaded her to give him about one-third of a loaf, for his dollar, and then he had no funds at all. At Batavia some ladies, members of the Ellicott family, came and brought them shoes, and otherwise administered to their wants. Buffalo was burned on the morning of the 30th of December. The battle had been commenced about midnight, and it was soon taken. The enemy plundered, burned and departed. The next day was comparatively quiet, and, on the second day, it being supposed that they had left the vicinity of the Granger house, Mrs. Frisbee proposed to return and get some supplies for her suffering family. But out of a large number of men, probably 500, no one dared to go with her. After considerable effort, she procured a horse and wagon of a man who was in some way connected with Gen. Wadsworth's family. As she was about starting, one man exclaimed: "Here we are, so many of us, and not one has so much courage as this woman. I will go with her." And he went. At Granger's, they found the bed and window curtains torn down, feathers scattered in the yard, the ticks and other valuables carried off, and every thing which was left, either defaced or destroyed. She hastily obtained a few articles among which were some candles, and a brass candlestick, which last article has, for several years, been among the relics in the pioneer's cabinet, at Norwalk, but, which, at her request, has recently been returned to Mrs. Townsend, to be sent to a similar collection in Buffalo.

About the time of the events which I have been relating, but at what particular time, Caroline cannot now recollect, her father was

ordered to take some prisoners to Greenbush. His wife and family were not far from Buffalo, and several miles in advance of his place of starting. He went on, in advance of his charge, for the purpose of obtaining, at his home, a change of clothing. On arriving, he informed his wife, that among his prisoners were several who were very badly wounded, and he desired her to prepare some suitable food for them. In another part of their house lived a woman who had a cow, and with the milk and some meal, she prepared porridge for them. When the wagon in which they were, came up, Mrs. Fisbee went out to feed them. As she stepped upon the hub of the wheel, she slipped, and on examination, found that it was made slippery by the blood escaping from the poor fellows in the wagon.

After this, Capt. Frisbee was for some time stationed in Batavia, and before the close of the war, received a Colonel's commission. All his property in Canada was confiscated, and after peace was declared, he settled with his family in Lewiston. Here, Caroline was married to her present husband, Kneeland Townsend, and in 1821, they emigrated to Ohio, where the uncle of Mr. Townsend, Kneeland Townsend, Senior, owned a large tract of land, from which a farm was given his nephew. This farm adjoined that of David Abbot, at the old county seat in Milan. While here, neither of them enjoyed good health, and an arrangement was made with Mr. William Townsend of Sandusky, by which a farm in Lewiston came into their possession, and they returned to that place. Some years after their return, Col. Frisbee's health failed. Symptoms of consumption appeared, and he went to New Orleans in the hope of regaining it. Through the influence of Gov. Clinton, of N. York, with the Mayor of New Orleans, he was appointed city Physician to the poor, and here he died, about the year 1832. Mrs. Frisbee afterward died in Lewiston. In 1844, Mr. Kneeland Townsend, Sen., having died, his nephew was requested, by the heirs, to come back and settle the estate. Accordingly they returned to Milan, where they still live. Of fourteen children, born to them, all are dead save one, the eldest, Kneeland Townsend, of St. Louis, Missouri. Seven of these children died of consumption, while in the bloom of youth. One of them, Mary Ann, had married George Wood, and left an infant, who has always lived with Mrs. Townsend--Caroline M. Wood, usually called, Caddie Townsend. She is now 16 years of age. Her father is also dead. The other six children died in interesting childhood. The wife of Kneeland Townsend, of St. Louis, having also died, Mrs. Townsend received *their* two children, one an infant of seven days, the other two years, into her family. The youngest, Harriet, when eighteen months old was adopted by Mrs. Agustus Harris, a niece of Mrs. Townsend, and still lives with her in Hamilton, Canada West. She is now seven years of age. The other, Authur K. Townsend, nine years, is still with his grandmother in Milan. These three grandchildren, (Caddie, Harriet and Authur,) with the son in Missouri, are all that remains of the once large family of Caroline Frisbee, first introduced to the reader as a little girl of nine years living at 40 Mile Creek, Canada, in the midst of war, military tumult and distress. She is now sixty-three years of age, and her husband sixty-seven.

During the late war, Mrs. Townsend was very active in helping to furnish and forward sanitary supplies to our soldiers. She also sent one soldier, an adopted son, into the army.

Americus Witmer, a young man whom she had raised from the age of four years, joined the 7th Ohio Regt., Capt. Sprague, and became an excellent soldier. At the time Capt. Sprague was lost, and efforts were being made to find him, Witmer was detailed with nineteen others, to search the region where he was last seen, and discover, if possible, some traces of him. At this time, he was exposed to severe weather, and camped out upon very wet and marshy land. He took cold which ended in consumption, although he remained, afterwards, one year and a half in the army. When he reached home, and was taking off his coat, he said to Mrs. Townsend, "Oh, mother, I would have spared you this trouble, if I could, but I have no other mother to go to." He died in her arms, in ten days after his return.

SCATTERED SHEAVES, No. 6.

BY RUTH.

PIONEER INCIDENTS.

Harriet Underhill, daughter of David Underhill, Sen., was married to Nathan Strong, in 1817, the first marriage for several miles in circuit. The Summer before, 1816, she had taught school in Wheat's Borough, now called Lyme. While there, herself and Sally Strong, sister of Nathan, started on horseback, for a visit to Harriet's home, now the home of Isaac Underhill, Esq., on the road from Norwalk to Monroeville. She says, "There was only a blind track across the prairie, and we missed our way, and came out at the State place. From there we went to Sutton's, now Hunt's Corners, and were directed to a log cabin occupied by the family of a Mr. Pierce." (Was this the home of aunt Polly Pierce, the Pioneer speaker?) "Here we spent the night. There was but one room in the hut, and blankets were hung up to make a separate apartment for us. We were so frightened that we did not both dare to sleep at the same time. We therefore took turns, all the long night, in watching and sleeping. As soon daylight appeared, we departed, Mr. Pierce showing us the right path. In attempting to cross the creek which ran between us and home, my horse slipped upon a rock, and I fell off into the water. I scramble up and re-mounted, and we soon came out into a very poor wagon road, which had been brushed out the Spring before, and which is now the pleasant road from Norwalk to Monroeville. Soon after we met my father, who, knowing we intended to arrive the day before, had become alarmed for our safety, and had

started in search of us. We reached home in safety, and indulged in a hearty, though late breakfast."

"STEM THROUGH LEAF."

One day Major Underhill was crossing the flats below the Saw Mill, when his horse was bitten by a rattle snake. He rode into the river, hoping to neutralize the poison, but the animal choked and fell. Having a flask of whisky with him, he forced a pretty liberal dose down the throat of the horse, and he seemed to recover, and Mr. Underhill proceeded onward to Mr. Abbot's in Avery. Arriving there, he turned his horse out, but, on going in the morning to find him, the poor beast was swollen from head to hoof to the full extent of his skin, and standing erect, without the power of bending a joint. Peleg Sunderland, of Vermont, who passed for an Indian Doctor, although he was a Yankee, had told Major Underhill of a remedy for the bite of the rattle snake, and he now sought for, and found the plant, which, for the want of the right name he called "stem through leaf." He mashed the roots, made a poultice, and applied it to the wound, and adminstered internally, a strong tea made of the roots and leaves. The horse recovered. Not long after this, William Beckwith, father of Doctors David and Seth Beckwith, was bitten while in the field at work. He was reaping on the farm afterwards owned by Peter Bowers. He had a great fear of the reptiles, and had always made a point of wearing his boots, but, on that occasion, his boots hurting his feet, he had gone into the house and exchanged them for shoes, and was bitten immediately on his return. He sent for Major Underhill, and, to prevent the poison from spreading through the whole system, applied a tight bandage above the wound. When Underhill arrived, his limb was terribly swollen, and Beckwith thought he must die. Underhill obtained the "stem through leaf" made a poultice of the roots, leaves and milk, and applied it to the wound, changing it every few minutes. Mr. Beckwith was relieved in a few hours. Major Underhill was afterwards sent for, to save the lives of some children, East of Milan, who had been bitten. He stated that they were more thoroughly imbued with the poison than any cases he had before seen. They were spotted. He applied his remedies, and the children recovered.

"NEVER SAY I CAN'T."

While David Abbot's family resided in Chagrin, (Willoughby,) before their removal to Avery, (Milan,) the following incident occurred. Mr. Abbot had been absent three months, probably on public business, and the time of his return was not known. Mrs. Abbot was ill from recent confinement, her infant, Lucy Abbot, being but one week old, when she heard a signal from the opposite side of the river, announcing that some one wished to cross. Upon looking out, she saw that it was her husband, accompanied by another gentleman. She was alone, except her little children, and the boat was upon her side of the river. What was to be done? There was no help, and in sight of home, must he, who was so dear to her, and so welcome to herself and little ones, stand there calling, in vain, for the boat to be sent over to him? Feeble as she was, she laid down her child, rushed to the river side, stepped fearlessly into the boat, seized the oars, and was over, and at his side, in a trice. Suppose she had said "I can't."

"A CHIP OF THE OLD BLOCK."

That same little child, Lucy Abbot, was often, even in comparative

childhood called upon to perform services which required more nerve and courage than it seemed possible for one so young, and of the gentler sex to possess. One afternoon, after the removal of the family to Milan, when she was about twelve years of age, it became necessary that a package of papers relative to Mr. Abbot's purchase of land, of one Hughes, should be sent to Judge Ruggles, who was to leave home early the next morning. Mr. Abbot, being ill with rheumatism, and no one else at hand, told Lucy to take a horse and carry the papers to him. She took a small black horse, said to be of Arabian descent, and which was famous for jumping, and started upon her mission. On her arrival at "Old Woman's Creek," so called, she saw, with dismay, that four or five planks of the rude bridge were gone, leaving a fearful opening too wide to pass, by any ordinary leap of man or beast. Here was a dilemma. Must she return? What will her father say? What can he *do*, for the papers *must be* delivered. She looked at the gap. "It must be passed," she said. She bent her head toward her little Arabian, and some how communicated to him that his prowess and agility were her last resort, and he must do his best to serve her in her distress. They approached the gap. "Jump Mink," said she, "jump," and with one resolute bound they were landed safely upon the other side, and off they trotted gaily to the house of Judge Ruggles. Upon her arrival, the Judge exclaimed, "Why Lucy, how did you cross the bridge? no one has passed over it for three weeks." "Oh" she quietly replied, "I had no trouble, I *jumped Mink* over, but father did'nt know it was unsafe." On her return, the Judge sent a person to conduct her by another, though more circuitous, route.

LUCY ABBOT TAKES A TUB RIDE—"SHE PADDLES HER OWN CANOE."

In the youthful days of the Wards and Abbots every family, along the shore of the Huron river, had a canoe. They were made by digging out the trunk of a large Walnut or Sycamore tree, until the cavity became of the right shape and capacity. David Abbot had a canoe in the middle of which twelve men could stand in a row. Mr. Ward had one 50 feet in length. The setting poles, used to propel them, were 12 or 14 feet long. Both girls and boys early learned to manage them, and to cross and re-cross; and to row up and down the river was a favorite pastime, as well as, at times, a necessary labor. The river side was a place of resort for pleasure and also for performing a variety of services which required an unusual quantity of water. Mrs. Ward had a large number of cows and made a great deal of butter and cheese, and the tubs, pans, pails, &c., used in their production, were often washed at the river side by her children. One day, Isaac and Rhoda Ward were thus employed, and the Abbot children were with them, amusing each other, and assisting as good will prompted. Lucy Abbot, who took pride in daring to do what others dared not attempt, declared that she could row herself across the river, with her *hands*, in one of Mrs. Ward's tubs. The others declared she could not, but if she would *try* they would accompany her in the canoe. She placed the tub upon the water, adjusted her position in it, and, sure enough, paddled away with her hands until she reached the opposite shore. The water was 14 feet deep. How she got back tradition saith not. Very likely both tub and rider took a ride back in the canoe of her less daring companions.

A DANCE AMONG THE PIONEERS.

Mr. Wolcott, often called Gov. Wolcott, lived on the Peninsula, and kept the first Light House erected there. He was genial in his disposition, loved music, and played the violin, (or fiddle as it was then called,) as did also David Abbot. Wolcott often furnished the music for the grand balls of those days. About the year 1814, the pioneers concluded they would have a sail, a dance and a cherry festival. Cherries grew upon the Peniusula, the trees having been planted there, many years before, by the French. They were to go in Abbot's boat. They started before daylight from the old County seat, accompanied by Major Underhill, Judge Everett, afterwards of Fremont, Lyman Farwell, and others. Lucy Abbot, not far from nine years of age, accompanied her father. They passed down the Huron river to its junction with the Lake, where they took on board Judges Wright and Ruggles, with their wives, Messrs. C. Curtis and Daniels, with their wives, some young people named Downing and Smith, and several others, whose names are forgotten. On their arrival in the afternoon, a heavy wind had driven the water out, so that they could not land near Wolcott's house. Get the cherries, they would, dance, they would, and to do these worthy acts, *land*, they must. But how? All honor to the gallantry of pioneer gentlemen. Each took a lady upon his back, and struck out into the water, which was above the knee, and tugging under the weight of such precious burdens, at last all reached the shore, and did'nt "go home till morning." Query: "What did the ladies do with their feet?" "Did not some of them dip into the water?" Oh, no, let me describe this novel mode of conveyance. The lady standing behind the gentleman puts both arms around his neck clasping her hands tightly in front. Her feet and clothing are then brought round to the right, and *his* right arm passed over them, holding her closely to his side. If the strength of the porter is equal to the weight of the baggage all goes easily and gently, particularly, if the *heart* is in the service; but can any one conceive the terrible splashing that would have ensued, on the above occasion, had each of the gentleman encountered a treacherous pit-fall, or been suddenly attacked with cramp in the ankle, or even stubbed his toe against a hidden rock, and fallen forward into the crystal element. Grottoes for mermaids would have been at a premium, then and there. Mr. Wolcott's house was small, made of logs, after the fashion of the country, and as the visit was unexpected, great commotion followed the sudden appearance of so large a company; nevertheless they received a hearty welcome from Mr. Wolcott and his wife. After a hearty supper of fish, short cake and cherries, preparations were made for a dance. Tables, beds, chairs &c., &c., mysteriously disappeared, and music being furnished by the worthy host, the whole house was turned into a scene of festive enjoyment. As there was not room for all to dance at the same time, or even be present, they took turns, a part staying out of doors while the others danced within. They kept it up until near morning. "Where or how so large a party lodged that night," says Lucy Abbot, (now the widow of Guy Stevens, of Milan,) "I can not say, but my father, myself and Major Underhill slept upon a rude covering to a threshing floor, upon which some straw had been scattered. At first, we were much annoyed by mosquitoes, but after a time, a shower of rain drove them away and our-

selves below, where we stayed until daylight. After breakfast we all went to pick cherries. The trees were very large. They were the common red cherry. Having obtained all the cherries we wished, and the water having risen, we set sail for home, and arrived at Huron about sunset, and at the old County seat, soon after daylight was gone. My mother stood upon the bank of the river looking anxiously for our return. She had expected us the night before."

THE PIONEERS OF CHAGRIN VISIT ROME.

David Abott, who first settled in Chagrin, sold out his property there, to a Mr. Wirt, and in June 1808, bought, of one Hughes, of New Haven, Connecticut, 1,800 acres of land, in the Township of Avery, now Milan. But before removing his family still farther West, he concluded to take them to visit their relatives in Rome, New York, where Matthew Brown, Mrs. Abbot's father, resided, and where he himself had, before marriage, practiced Law. Both Mr. and Mrs. Abbot were natives of Brookfield, Massachusetts. The year before this visit, he had built a boat, with a deck, and in *this* the journey was to be made. They started—four children, with their parents. Two men, who were going for their families, accompanied them. One was named Bishop, the other, perhaps, Hamilton. The boat was drawn round Niagara Falls, by a large number of oxen, and launched upon Lake Ontario. They continued along the South shore of Ontario to Oswego, thence up the river of the same name. No accident occurred on their way to Rome, but, on their return, they were particularly unfortunate. Their party then consisted of Mr. and Mrs. Abbot, and their two younger children, (Mary O. and Benjamin W. having been left in Rome, to attend school,) Mr. Bishop, wife and six children, and the other man and wife. They reached Oswego in safety, but, about six miles West of it, they encountered a squall, and fearing the loss of the boat, the coast being high and rocky, they concluded to put the women and children on shore, with the provision chest, and, if necessary to preserve the boat, to run back to Oswego. The children were carried in the arms of the men, and the women in a skiff. So rough was the lake that it took all the strength and skill of the men, with their setting poles, to prevent the boat from being broken into pieces against the shore. The children were laid upon the ground, upon a large tarpaulin, and Mrs. Bishop left to watch them. The other women followed the fortunes of the boat, and their imperilled companions. One lantern was left with Mrs. Bishop, and Mrs. Abbot carried another. She, with the other woman, crept along on the high bank, above the boat, ready to aid the men below, should an opportunity occur. Often the bank was so high that they lost sight of the boat below. One of the men was sent to Oswego for help, but the night was dark and rainy, and he lost his way, and no help arrived. In the meantime, the boat was carried whithersoever the winds and the waves pleased, for the setting poles had broken. At length, they succeeded in throwing a rope up to the women, and, by their aid, the boat was worked along until the shore was more broken, and the men could land. The boat went to pieces. Abbot went to Oswego for help, and the other man and the women went back to the children. They found them half covered with water, and poor Mrs. Bishop weeping with fear and trouble. She supposed the whole party was lost, and she was left alone, in a wilderness, with eight children to save and provide for.

Mr. Abbot found help, and succeeded in saving from the boat such things as the water would not injure, particularly the irons for a mill, which Mr. Bishop was transporting. They were detained several weeks. A kind woman, in the vicinity, named Brace, hearing that a boat had been lost, found the unfortunates, and took them to her own house, although it was very small—only 12 by 14 feet in dimensions. She cooked in a little crib outside. While they stayed, the children were employed in picking out the nails from the wreck. The irons of the boat were also saved, and Abbot used them, afterwards, in building another. A bundle of trees, which Mrs. Abbot was carrying carefully to her new home, was lost, but Mrs. Brace afterwards found and planted them, and after years had gone by, some of the sprouts reached Mrs. Abbot's friends in Milan, but whether she received any of them is not remembered.

BIOGRAPHY OF JOHN DILLINGHAM.

BY AMOS FELT.

John Dillingham and his family were among the early settlers of the Fire Lands. Where he was born I do not recollect, but I think that he said in Rhode Island, and that his father's family were formerly from the vicinity of Cape Cod. He had two or three brothers and a sister or two. He lost his mother when quite young, and his father married a Quakeress for his second wife.

Early in life he took to the ocean, intending to follow the water, but when about seventeen years of age the brig on which he was went to Lisbon for salt, and on her return trip met with adverse winds and calms, so that they were more than double the time that they intended. Their store of provisions was exhausted and they were about casting lots to see who should be food for the rest, when they discovered a vessel; but she did not heed their signal of distress. They soon after saw land, and another vessel came to their relief, enabling them to get into harbor, which was Hartford, Conn., I think. After making a few more voyages he quit the sea, and before he was twenty-one years of age he married Clarissa Olcott, of East Hartford, Conn., by whom he had six children, namely, Henry,

Clarissa, Betsey, Sally, Fanny, and Polly, all of whom are dead; and the dust of two of them is mingled with that of the Fire Lands.

Within a year after his marriage he enlisted as third Sergeant under a Captain Miles, who was recruiting for General Wayne's army, to fight the Indians. His Captain retained him for some time in the recruiting service before he joined his regiment, which was somewhere on or near the Ohio River. He served his time out under General Wayne, but was not in the battle of the Falling Timbers, being detailed to guard their stores when they marched down the Maumee River to attack the Indians.

Many were his hair-breadth escapes while he was in the service. He used to relate to me the following: At one time he was detailed to carry dispatches from some post between Cincinnati, and where General Wayne was encamped the winter before the war closed, and on his return, a little before sunset, he passed an old dry tree that had fallen and was on fire. He concluded that it was the work of the Indians and that it was not safe to stop there for the night, so he pursued his journey. In about a mile he met six or seven men that were on their way to Wayne's camp. They inquired if there was any fire or chance to make any. He told them there was one about a mile ahead of them, and they beset him hard to turn about and go and stay with them that night. He told them he did not consider it safe and that it was a plan of the Indians to decoy some one, that they might murder him. They only laughed at him and he put ahead until it was about dark, then left the trail and put off to one side, dug away the snow and made a hole in the ground, got some dry wood and made a little fire, took his blanket and covered himself so as not to have any light seen, and sitting, slept what he could. The next day he arrived at his post safe. In a few days he heard of those men being killed by the Indians that night by that fire.

After Mr. Dillingham had served his time out and got his discharge, he returned to his family in Connecticut, but after working in one place and another, some of the time by the day, he concluded that Connecticut was not the best place for him. He took his little family and started for the far West. He made a stand in the town of Stafford, between Leroy and Batavia, Genesee County, New York, where he lived until 1809. He then moved to Ashtabula County, in this State, then to Mentor, Geauga County, thence to Tinker's Creek, near Cleveland. Here he buried his first wife and two of his daughters, Clarissa and Polly, having buried his third daughter, Sally, in Stafford.

He married Hannah Hicox, of Cleveland, for his second wife. She bore him fourteen or fifteen children, among whom were Sally, Ann, John, Hannah, Betsey, King, Esther, Olcott and Comfort. They had three births that were twins. The most of the children died in infancy and I never knew their names.

When the war of 1812 broke out Mr. Dillingham was living on Tinker's Creek, and he either volunteered or came as a substitute to Camp Avery. After staying there some five or six weeks, his son Henry became dissatisfied with living at home with a step-mother, came out to see him and prevailed on him and his Captain to let him serve out his father's time.

In the Spring (that is 1813) he moved to Bloomingville, and there kept a kind of log tavern, and he and Henry carried the mail from Cleveland to Camp Seneca, where Gen. Harrison was encamped.

Now let me digress to relate a few incidents connected with those times. Soon after Major Croghan beat the British and Indians off from Fort Stephenson, now Fremont, the Indians divided into two small bands of some two or three hundred each, and roamed through different sections of the country. One party made for Bloomingville, where there was a small settlement that had been posted up in a blockhouse. It stood on the opposite side of the road from the old brick building, built by a company that styled themselves the Commercial Bank of Sandusky Bay. The inhabitants thought there was no danger, and had mostly left the blockhouse and gone to their homes. It seems to me that there was a hand of Providence in their escaping the tomahawk and scalping knife.

Two men, John Paxton and Seth Harrington, both good hunters took it into their heads to go to a deer-lick soon after the battle at Fort Stephenson. The lick was situated somewhere near the road then leading from Huron through Bloomingville to Lower Sandusky, and some distance West. Some time past the middle of the afternoon they mounted their horses and started. The road ran some of the way across prairie and other places on ridges. As they went off the prairie on to the ridge, some two miles from the blockhouse, they discovered a few Indians coming on to the other end of the ridge. Paxton drew his rifle to fire, but Harrington caught it and told him not to, for there were more behind them, and that they were intending to attack the settlement. They wheeled their horses and made for the blockhouse, and rallied the settlers as soon as possible. By that means the settlement was saved.

One more incident of this affair and I will resume my narrative. A Mrs. Wood, a widow, sister of Captain Harrington, as he was always called (for they elected him their Captain that night,) after carrying in what wood and water she might want, went up stairs and brought down a one-tined pitchfork, which she said she was going to fight the Indians with, if they attacked them while the Captain drilled the men. She took her post with them, with her one tined pitchfork.

Mr. Dillingham took the mail to carry from Cleveland to Camp Seneca, where General Harrison was encamped. Colonel Proctor, the British commandant at Malden, was desirous of getting hold of Harrison's dispatches, to get some clue of his intentions, and had offered the Indians a large reward if they would take the mail and bring it to him. General Harrison was aware of their intentions and frequently sent out detachments from Colonel Ball's squadron of mounted riflemen, to clear them from the mail route. At one time they came upon fourteen or fifteen Indians secreted in a thicket of hazel brush, and killed all but one, who broke through the horsemen, and as they fired at him, fell over an old log and pretended to be dead, by that means getting away. At another time they killed nine. This I had from Henry Dillingham, who carried the mail part of the time instead of his father, and saw the Indians after they were killed.

About the close of the war Mr. Dillingham bought a farm a little below the head of Cold Creek, where Mr. Petingill built a grist mill afterward. In the Fall of 1815 he bought of John Beatty two hundred acres of land, lying in 3d section of Perkins Township, on Pike Creek, about half way between Bloomingville and Sandusky City. Here he made considerable improvement, but finding that Beatty's title to the land was not good, he exchanged with him for land in the first section of

Norwalk Township, where he lived from October 1819 until June 1836. He sold the latter tract to Mr. Chas. Jackson, and moved to Porter Co., Indiana, with most of his family, and there he died some four or five years ago, aged about ninety, his wife having died some two years before him.

Henry Dillingham married Amanda Page, and began a farm on Pike Creek, the next lot south of his father's. After living on it a year he sold out to a man by the name of Rodgers, who let it go back to Mr. Beatty. He moved to his father-in-law's and stayed a year, then back to Pike Creek, in March, and lived there until the 1st of October, 1819, then to the first section of Norwalk, where he lived, I think, about two years. He then moved to Ridgefield and made the first beginning in what is called the Webb settlement, where he lived until 1837, when he sold to a man by the name of Baldwin, who afterwards sold to Daniel Ruggles. In June 1839, he moved to Porter County, Ind., where he died, in January 1850. They had six children born on the Fire Lands, namely, Harriet, Rebecca, Adelia, Clarissa, Lyman, and one that died and was buried on the farm in Ridgefield.

Betsey Dillingham, the second daughter of John Dillingham, died the 28th of July, 1818, on Pike Creek, and was buried on her father's farm, on a ridge the east side of the creek, where there were four others buried—a man and his son, Clark by name, in one grave. The other two were Titus Allen, a son of Justes Allen, aged about fifteen, and an infant child of Zina Rhoads. The last time I was there the graves were not to be found. The farm had been divided and the ridge had been built on, near where the graves had been.

Fanny, the fourth daughter of Mr. Dillingham, was married to Amos Felt, the writer of this article, October 7th, 1819, by Julius House, Esq. They were the first couple that he married. She died May 26th, 1840, aged 37 years, 1 month and 9 days. She had eight children. Three died young, and two have since followed her—Almira, the wife of Wesley Laylin, and Julia R., the wife of J. C. Waggoner.

Sally, the eldest child of Mr. Dillingham by his second wife, married Edward Cole, of Bronson. They moved to Porter County, Indiana, in 1837, where they still remain, and, it is said, have accumulated a large property.

Mr. Dillingham was a very stirring, active man, a great lover of handsome cattle—red and brindle being his favorite colors. But he was a poor feeder and quite often lost much stock. He was rather of a roving mind for one that married so young. I once asked him how he came to quit a sailor's life. He said that his education was poor, that he could never rise above a common sailor, and that, he thought, was rather a low calling for him.

He was rather quick and passionate, yet free-hearted in company and full of life. From the days of President Jackson to the end of his life he was a rank Democrat.

MEMBERS OF THE FIRE LANDS HISTORICAL SOCIETY.

CONTINUED FROM VOLUME 7TH.

NAMES.	RESIDENCE.	WHERE AND WHEN BORN.	WHEN AND WHERE FIRST SETTLED ON FIRE LANDS.
Agard, A. H.	Sandusky,	Wadsworth, Medina Co., 1821	Sandusky, Dec. 1856.
Arnold, James	Townsend, O.	Wilton, Conn., July 5, 1803.	Townsend, O.
Amsdell, Philander	Townsend, O.	Hamb'gh, Erie Co., N.Y., 1819	Townsend, O., 1861.
Ashley, S. B.	Greenfield,	Albinn, Canada.	Greenfield, 1824.
Bowen, Saloma	Norwich,	Cuyahoga Co., O., July 1821.	Norwich.
Bartholomew, A. J.	Townsend, O.	Seneca Co., N. Y., 1812.	Huron Co., 1854.
Brown, Smyrona	Townsend, O.	Franklin Co., Vt., 1804.	Townsend, 1860.
Burr, Joseph O.	Townsend, O.	Suffolk Co., N. Y., 1843.	Townsend, 1864.
Benson, Benj.	Townsend, O.	Clarksfield, Huron Co., 1822.	
Bott, J. G.	Townsend, O.	Huntington Co., N. Y., 1829.	Townsend, 1834.
Bott, Kate	Townsend, O.	England, 1819.	Townsend, 1834.
Bott, R. E.	Townsend, O.	Onondaga Co., N. Y., 1830.	Norwalk, June 1839.
Boardman, Hiram,	Townsend, O.	Vermont, 1805.	Townsend, O., 1835.
Cleveland, W. H.	Norwalk,		
Cook, Augustus	Norwich,	Onondaga co.,N.Y.,June 1791.	1817.
Clark, M. J.	Seneca Co., O.	Steuben Co., N. Y., 1837.	Seneca Co., 1829.
Call, Charles	Greenfield, O.	New York, March 22d, 1823.	Greenfield, 1831.
Crow, Robert	Centerton, O.	Chatham, C.W., Sept. 29, 1820	Peru, O.
Crow, Lucina	Centerton, O.	Peru, O., 1820.	Fairfield.
Cherry, Hannah	Fairfield, O.	Montgomery Co., N. Y., 1804.	Fairfield.
Case, E. S.	New Haven,	West Scipio, O., Feb. 12, 1826	
Dimm, Rev. Thos.	New Haven,	Pennsylvania, March 2, 1810.	Huron, O.
Dean, R. C.	Townsend, O.	Sandy Lake, N.Y.,July 15,1815	Cleveland, May 2d, 1837.
Dean, Mrs. L. C.	Townsend, O.	Ludlowville, N. Y., Feb. 1822.	Townsend, March 1858.
Drennan, Wm. W.	Plymouth,	Canton, O., July 18, 1820.	New Haven, Aug. 1824.
Elwood, Miss R. M.	Townsend,	Florence, Erie Co., O., 1850.	Townsend, 1865.
Elwood, Miss F. J.	Townsend,	New York, 1842.	Townsend, 1865.
Felt, Sophia	Greenfield,	DeRuyter, Madison Co., N. Y.	Ridgefield, 1815.
Finch, Mrs. Selma	Townsend,	Abany Co., N. Y., Sept. 8, 1802	Townsend, 1837.
Forley, A. B.	Townsend,	Madison Co., N. Y., 1812.	Lyme Tp., 1844.
Finch, Amasa	Townsend,	Cairo, Green Co., N. Y., 1799,	Townsend, 1837.
Gunn, John	Norwich,	Berkshire Co., Mass., 1803.	Greenfield, 1834.
Gram, F.	Townsend,	Madison Co., N. Y., 1807.	1847.
Haynes, Asa	Norwich,	Greenfield, O., 1818.	
Hopkins, J. M.	Berlin,	Sherburne, N. Y., Sept. 1815.	Berlin, 1836.
Jones, S. M.	Ripley, O.,	Andover, Conn., Nov. 8, 1808	Ripley, O., 1835.
Kelley, George	Greenfield, O.	Pennsylvania, Jan. 25, 1788.	Greenfield, O.
Laylin, Marie E.	Norwalk,	Norwich, Jan. 1, 1839.	
Loveland, John	New Haven,	Norwich, Vt., July 29, 1798.	New Haven, 1822.

NAMES.	RESIDENCE.	WHERE AND WHEN BORN.	WHEN AND WHERE FIRST SETTLED ON FIRE LANDS.
Lease, E. S.	New Haven,	West Scipio, Feb. 12, 1826.	Ripley, O.
McGee, William	Greenfield,	New York, March 16, 1795.	Greenfield, O.
Mosier, Mrs. E.	Townsend, O.	Dutchess Co., N. Y., 1812.	Townsend, 1837.
McKisson, S. V.	Townsend, O.	Enterprise, Huron Co., O.	
Martin, Dr. E.	Townsend, O.	Fitchville, 1826.	Townsend, 1851.
Miles, Eliza	Townsend, O.	Connecticut, 1805.	Milan, O. 1838.
Nelson, S. S.	Townsend, O.	Vermont, 1821.	Townsend, O., 1859.
Palmer, S. C.	Greenfield,	New York, May 10, 1812.	Ridgefield, 1828.
Pearl, O. S.	Berlin,	Ellington, Conn., 1813.	Berlin, 1819.
Petteys, Walter	Townsend, O.	Angelica, N. Y., 1820.	New London, 1834.
Pearl, Mary	Berlin,	Tallcott, Conn., 1787.	Berlin, O., 1819.
Robinson, Huriah	Richmond,	Coshocton Co.,O., March 1816	Norwich, May 1832.
Robinson, Thomas	Norwich,	Coshocton Co., O., 1809.	Norwich, 1832.
Riggs, E. C.	Townsend, O.	Delaware Co., N. Y., 1804.	Townsend, O., 1834.
Raymond, James	Tontogany, O.	Shutsbury, Mass., Dec., 1796.	Peru, 1816.
Sykes, Daniel	Richmond,	Vermont, June 6, 1806.	Greenfield, 1832.
Sweetland, Daniel	Richmond,	New York, May 24, 1821.	Greenfield, 1837.
Stowe, E.	Townsend, O.	New York, 1826.	Milan, 1836.
Thorley, Joseph	Richmond,	Pennsylvania, March 20, 1808	Richmond, 1856.
Teed, Mrs. S.	Townsend, O.	Geneseco, N. Y., 1812.	Townsend, 1845.
Tillinghast, R. E.	Townsend, O.	Berlin, Erie Co., O., 1840.	Townsend, 1854.
Wood, Joseph	Lyme,	England, Oct. 28, 1819.	Lyme, January 1834.
Waldron, S. G.	Townsend, O.	Ontario Co., N. Y., 1810.	Hartland, 1822.
Wait, Ezra	Norwalk,	Cambridge, N.Y., June 9, 1800	Norwalk, April 3d, 1834.

HOYT'S SURVEY.

[We gladly give place to the following reminiscences of Mr. Hoyt. He is probably the only person, certainly the only one living on the Fire Lands, who can give from personal recollection, the history of the surveys of the "sufferers'" lands.

We are also indebted to the Rev. E Barber, of Florence, through whose instrumentality these recollections were obtained.]

Narrative of Mr. Simeon Hoyt, one of the company who first surveyed the Fire Lands. Mr. Hoyt is still living in Florence, Erie Co., in the 87th year of his age, and although much enfeebled by age and sickness the past winter, was able to give without hesitation the facts embodied in this narrative, in reply to questions by the writer.

"Our company consisted of thirteen men, formed in Connecticut for the purpose of surveying the Firelands. We started upon our journey in April 1806, with two two-horse waggons and one one-horse wagon. We came by way of Philadelphia and Pittsburgh to Cleveland. The company was here divided. Nine of us went to Portage, on the south line of the Reserve, fifty miles west of

the Pennsylvania State line. The south line of the Reserve had previously been surveyed to that point. The other four, under the direction of Almon Ruggles as surveyor, proceeded west along the Lake shore to the mouth of Huron River. Our company consisted of nine men, viz, one Surveyor, three chain men, three axe men, and two pack horse men, with five horses to carry our tent, provisions, utensils, &c., &c. Our provisions consisted of salt pork and flour. At Portage we were joined by Mr. Seth Pease, a surveyor in the employ of the United States, who was to superintend the survey of the south line of the Reserve to its west end, 120 miles from the State line of Pennsylvania. We first surveyed the south line to its west end. We then surveyed a line due north to Sandusky Bay, where we erected a flag, and as we had no means of crossing the Bay we came down the lake shore to Huron, where we met the other company that came west from Cleveland. We now crossed over to the Peninsula and continued the west line to the lake. We now surveyed a line from a point where the west line struck the lake to the east line of the Fire Lands, parallel with the south line.

We now commenced surveying the tract into Townships five miles square, surveying the lines first east and west and then north and south. We then surveyed it into Sections, two-and-a-half miles square, in the same manner. This survey occupied us a little more than one year. Our company had all enjoyed good health with the exception of Mr. Pease, the U. S. Surveyor, on the south line, who was laid up a few days with rheumatism, during which time we were unemployed. We frequently came upon the camp of Indians, but they gave us no trouble.

I now returned to Connecticut in company with four others. We traveled on foot, went by way of Pittsburgh, Reading and New York. We made the journey in twenty-one days.

This survey was subsequently objected to, as having fixed the west line too far west, including too much territory, and the whole survey was cancelled. Mr. Almon Ruggles subsequently took the contract of surveying the Fire Lands into townships. Mr. Ruggles and myself left Connecticut in April 1808, traveling on horse back, and reached Huron in May, and with a company employed here proceeded to the south-west corner of the Reserve. A Mr. Ludlow, U. S. Surveyor, had been commissioned to fix this point, which he did, setting a post in the midst of an almost impenetrable swamp, something over a mile east of the former survey. From this corner, thus determined, we measured east twenty-five miles, and thus fixed the south-east corner. We thus found our base line fixed by United States authority, or its surveyors. We then returned to the west line and commenced running the township lines, first east and west and then north and south. This occupied us about six months. Our company consisted of one Surveyor, two chain men, two axe men and one pack horse man. Our provisions were the same as in the former survey, except that our bread was prepared at Huron. We seldom had fresh meat, as all the wild game kept aloof from so large a company.

Mr. Ruggles returned to Connecticut and I spent the winter at Huron with Mr. Wright, who had been my associate as chain man in the survey. In the Spring of 1809 Mr. Ruggles returned to Huron, having engaged with the proprietors of several Townships to survey them into lots. In this season we surveyed into lots Vermillion, Jessup, or Florence, as it is now called, Wakeman and Clarksfield. We also sur-

veyed into sections Norwalk, New Haven and Eldridge, or Berlin, as now called. In this manner the summer and autumn of 1809 was employed.

In the summer of this year my father, who had the title to a tract of land in Clarksfield, came out to see about it, and was taken sick, and it became necessary for me to accompany him home. I remained in Connecticut until the close of the war, and in 1817 moved with my family to Clarksfield, and settled on a tract of land which I had purchased, and on which I resided 43 years; and then removed to Florence.

I have buried two wives. My first wife died in 1858, leaving me one son and two daughters. My second wife died in 1864. I have since resided with my son-in-law's family, Mr. Pierce. My family were the first settled in the township of Clarksfield. Mr. Starr, with his family, came the same season. My family the first year comprised eleven persons, and it was no easy matter to provide provisions for so large a household. We obtained some flour from Richland County, some from Huron, and made use of pounded corn some of the time. After the first year we were not troubled for the necessaries of life.

I am now in my 87th year. I have enjoyed almost uninterrupted health until the last few months. My hearing and eye sight remain good, although I have used glasses to read for some years. But the rapid failing of strength and energy admonishes me that I have not long to remain in this world."

THE CAHOON CELEBRATION.

Dover, October 11th, 1865.

On the 10th of October, 1810, Joseph Cahoon, his wife Lydia, and their children, Amos, Mary, Joel, Abigail, Rebecca, Daniel, Benjamin, and William, ended a toilsome land journey of seventeen days from Vergennes, Vermont, and took possession of the wilderness which then covered as with a coat of mail the southern shore of Lake Erie all along that now pleasant stretch of country overlooking Dover Bay. The Cahoon pioneers built their log cabin on a romantic and beautiful site where Cahoon creek enters the Bay; and although the industry of the tribe of Joseph long ago converted the forest into well-tilled fields and fruitful orchards, their good taste has preserved much of the picturesqueness and wildness of the scenery of their early home. From the porch of the present Cahoon farm-house the eye takes in a lovely landscape of valley and hill-

side, with a splendid view of the Lake through a broad gate-way of Autumnal glories. For though the subtle frost has not yet plied its mystic art, age and

——The wings of morn and even
Have touched with magic breath the changing leaves.

* * * * * * *

What gorgeousness, what blazonry, what pomp
Of colors, bursts upon the ravished sight!
Here, where the maple rears its yellow crest,
A golden glory; yonder, where the oak
Stands monarch of the forest, and the ash
Is girt with flame-like parasite, and broad
The dog-wood spreads beneath a rolling field
Of deepest crimson, and afar, where looms
The gnarled gum, a cloud of bloodiest red!

At the close of half a century of prospered life and increase, Joel Cahoon and his family, who occupy the old homestead, hit upon the happy thought of a celebration of the anniversary of the settlement of Dover by a gathering of the scattered Cahoon branches of the ancestral tree. The neighbors and their descendants who participated in the trials and the joys of the early settlers were not forgotten, for in the afternoon of the same 10th of October, 1810, Asahel Porter and his wife Rebecca, and their nephew Leverett Johnson arrived, and located on an adjacent lot. The next year Moses Eldred and family arrived and built a log cabin a mile further up the Lake. The survivors of the families which then constituted the settlement, their descendants, and a few present neighbors, joined in the Cahoon pioneer celebration, which passed off so pleasantly that an annual festival was resolved upon. To-day has witnessed the sixth of these truly social re-unions, and the attendance shows a still growing interest in the pioneer holidays. The Cahoons were numerously represented from gray haired sire to lisping babe—grandfathers, grandmothers, fathers, mothers, children, grandchildren, and great-grandchildren—for like the banyan, the Cahoon tree has taken fresh root and flourished from generation to generation. Most of the heads of the pioneer families of the vicinity rest from their labors; but they were well represented by the Johnsons, the Porters, and the Hursts of Dover, the Sweets and others from Avon, the Saxtons and Sheldons of Ridgeville, the Eldreds of Elyria, the Frenches of Rockport, the Johnsons of Amherst, and the Roots, the Burrels, and the Days of Sheffield. Warrensville, Berea, and Cleveland, were also represented; about two hundred persons in all. The hearty handshakes and talking over of old times made the hours all too brief. There, were knots of grandmothers living over log cabin life—reviewing its hardships, sacrifices, and dangers, with frequent episodes of the merry-makings, quiltings, huskings, riding behind on horseback to singing schools, meetings, weddings and funerals—quite to the wonderment of grandchild listeners; and, near by, groups of silver-grays also reverting to the changes of half a century; discussing the chopping and logging bees, raisings, ball playings, wrestling matches, jumpings, and shooting matches, or boasting of the hunting exploits of long ago. One of the Nimrods had with him the identical rifle brought to "New Connecticut" on his shoulder all the way from "Down East", a veritable and venerable wild beast slayer of flint lock memory. He was a famous hunter when the Lake country was frontier ground, and the group roared heartily over his revival of the almost forgotten incidents of the Grand Hunt when the men and boys of Dover, Avon, Ridgeville, Elyria, Amherst, Black River and Sheffield surrounded a wild tract big enough for a township, on and east of the Black River, and with

"Guns, drums, blunderbuss, and thunder,"

drove the frightened game into half

a mile square of woods on the bank of the Lake. Those were gay days in new country life, with occasional uproarious lights; for the pure spirit of rye, corn and peaches extracted in log still-house wherever grinding could be had, made men jolly but did not kill with delirium like the forty rod strychnine of this age. Our Nimrod related with great gusto the trick played on a whisky speculator who provided two barrels for the hunt. At the encampment that night he retailed whisky at a deer's ham per quart from his temporary bar—at one end of the board the barrels, the other the pile of hams. Exchanges were very frequent during the night, but in the morning the dealer found to his astonishment and chagrin the pile had not increased, for while hunters brought in and sold, confederates in mischief stole, thus keeping trade and camp lively. Grandsons heard these reminiscences of the past, and winked each other distrustingly of the "old boys." Other and younger groups chatted and laughed of matters present, and future, till the toot—toot—t-o-o-t of the dinner horn—an old fashioned conch shell at the lips of Miss Ida Cahoon—summoned all to the bountiful pic-nic dinner spread on tables in the midst of a fine grove of hickories and crab apples directly on the bank, a locality made doubly pleasant by October's golden sun and pure lake breeze.

Mr. Clark Eldred, of Elyria, called the assembly to order. Mr. Wm. H. Root, of Sheffield, was made President, Dr. C. F. Dutton, of Cleveland, Secretary, and Rev. Mr. Jewett, of Berea, Chaplain. The pioneers were soon seated, the venerable members of the Cahoon family at the head of the table. After a second table of the descendants of the pioneers had partaken of the generous pic-nic provisions, President Root, opened the mental feast by a brief retrospect of the past fifty years, with a happy reference to the origin of the anniversary celebration and the cordial welcome ever extended to guests by the hospitable Cahoon family. He then read the following:

RECORD OF THE PAST AND PRESENT.

"Joseph Cahoon with his wife and eight children, arrived here October 10th, 1810, from Vergennes, Vermont.

The family now consists of four children, forty-three grand-children, and fifty-three great-grand-children.

Since the last meeting there has been one death and two births."

The President offered as a sentiment:

The Patriarch Joseph and his numerous Tribe Honest Men and Women, the noblest work of God!

Rev. Mr. Jewett responded in a short, appropriate speech, in which he paid a tribute to the sterling virtues of the Cahoon pioneers and their descendants—their integrity, industry, enterprise and hospitality. He regarded these annual meetings as bright spots in life—polishers of the rough edges of society—making men and women happier and better by social contact. Mr. J. closed with the following sentiment:

The Cahoon Family, and all who meet with them: A long and peaceful life, and a happy meeting next year.

The President read a letter from Mrs. C. S. Wheeler, expressing the regrets of herself and President Wheeler, of Baldwin University, Berea, for unavoidable absence. We quote from the letter:

Mr. & Mrs. CAHOON: Dear Friends: * * *. We remember with much pleasure, those happy gatherings, and are saddened by the thought that *one* at least of the number that last year enjoyed your generous hospitality, lies low—yet, *he sleeps well!* Happy for us all if, when our summons come, we too

are ready for the "Chariot of Israel and the horseman thereof."

May I offer the following sentiment:

Rev. W. B. Disbro: Beloved in life, lamented in death, he has gone to his reward.

The Cahoon Choir sang with much pathos "The Vacant Chair."

A sentiment was read by the President paying a proper tribute to the worth of Mrs. Johnson, of Dover, widow of the Hon. Leveritt Johnson, formerly Representative in the Ohio Legislature from Cuyahoga county. Mr. Johnson died in 1846, his widow, daughter of Joseph and Lydia Cahoon, numbers nearly three score and ten years. She was present at the festival, and Dr. Dutton, of Cleveland, made a pleasant response to the sentiment. He spoke of his regard for old women—had always "sparked" them in preference to young ladies—and had fallen quite in love with the venerable Mrs. Johnson, whom he had never seen until to-day. She had much interested him in her narration of the incidents of pioneer life, especially in the fact that when at the age of fourteen she met with young Johnson of sixteen, who had come the day after her own arrival to enliven the solitude of the wilderness as her father's neighbor, and then thought "he was the boy for her." So it proved, and the "love at sight" made Hymen's torch brighter and brighter through a long and useful wedded life. Dr. D. advised the young to love and often counsel with the old if they too would be wise, happy and blessed. The "mother's in Israel" smiled pleasantly at the Doctor's "sparking" speech, while their daughters pouted prettier than ever at the transparent flattery, evidenced by the presence of his fair young wife in their midst. As an offset to the singular taste of the speaker, somebody sent the following sentiment to the President, which was received with bursts of laughter.

Old Bachelors and Old Maids—A cold set; may they be toasted till they are melted together.

The following sentiment was offered by Mr. Norman Day of Shefield:

The Days of Yore: We cherish the remembrance of them.

In answer to a call, Mr. Day made a capital three minute's speech, going back to the boyhood homes of the pioneers of New England, and contrasting the times then with the wonderful improvements of the present era.

Mr. Clark Eldred, of Elyria, was called out, and briefly referred to his arrival in Dover in 1811, and the panic among the few families of the neighborhood on Hull's disgraceful surrender to the British.

A toast given to the Host and Hostess of the occasion we failed to obtain a copy of. President Root spoke of the great satisfaction afforded all their guests by these celebrations, and said that the hospitalities proffered are heartfelt as was shown by tears so frequently trickling down the cheeks of the venerable Host before him. Mr. Wm. O. Cahoon, the youngest of the original Cahoon family, offered the following:

In behalf of the tribe of Joseph, I extend to the princes of the surrounding tribes of Judah, &c., a cheerful welcome to our annual gatherings. Please come often.

Miss Addison of Cleveland, favored the assembly with two songs during the festival, one being "Happy are we to-day, friends." The sun getting low, though the day seemed short, after singing the Doxology by the assembly, an adjournment took place to October 10th, 1866,

Cahoon creek was a locality of much interest in pioneer times. Joseph Cahoon built the first grist mill west of the Cuyahoga river, on the Black river, which was then included in Dover township; and the first mill in the present Dover. The ruins of the latter still exist on the

Cahoon farm. The sills were laid the day of Perry's victory, and the workmen heard the Yankee thunder near Put-in-Bay. The mill stones were obtained on the farm, and the mill was a god-send to the sparse population all through the Lake region. During the great drought in the fall of 1818, the mills on Black River and the Cahoon mill failed, and people up the Lake, thirty or forty miles distant from Cleveland, after living on jointed and pounded corn as long as possibly palatable, had to go to mill on horseback as far as Newburg, to obtain ground grists.

Dover now bids fair to become the vineyard of the county. The Dover Bay Company have already some fifty acres in grapes, and are underdraining large fields on the Lake bank to add to the profitable culture. The location is sightly, the soil clay, and thought to be the very best for grapes. J. A. H

REMARKS AT THE TOWNSEND MEETING.

We are indebted to the very full report of the last Quarterly Meeting at Townsend in the Sandusky Register for the following sketches of remarks made on that occasion.

FRANKLIN D. REED.

On taking the floor Mr. Reed gave an interesting outline of the early history of the Fire Lands, commencing about the time of Hull's surrender, and at some length gave the details of a hurried stampede by his father and family from their early home, near Huron, to Mansfield, in order to escape from the Indians who were then in the vicinity of Huron and Greenfield, plundering and massacring the settlers. The country at that time between Huron and Mansfield was a wilderness, and to reach the latter place it became necessary to cut a road through the timber in order that the team might pass.

In those days the standard articles of food were pounded corn and johnny-cake. The young ladies were not quite as stylish as they are at the present time, but the boys of those days thought as much of them as the boys of to-day do of their lady-loves. Their dresses then were homespun linen, starched and ironed until they looked white, clean and bright, and if they were figured it was with stripes or plaids in copper colors. The hair was neatly done up in a roll, with small tasty ribbons attached to the ends. Their cheeks were red, their steps light and elastic, their health excellent, and the majority of them were just such women as the boys of to-day would not like to "tackle."

The ladies of pioneer days were not easily frightened. About the year 1812, his grandfather had cleared three or four acres of land near Norwalk. One evening fifteen or twenty drunken Indians approached the house where his mother was

alone churning. One of them passing over the porch and through the open door entered the room and demanded some butter-milk. "Mother told him to wait, it was not ready. The Indian became angry and seized hold of the dasher, when mother pushed him away. The Indian then drew a scalping knife, which mother knocked out of his hand, and catching him by the breech-cloth and nape of the neck, threw him headlong through the door among the other savages outside. The Indians concluded they didn't want any butter-milk and left."

Mr. Reed then related some interesting hunting stories, and spoke of the time when there were but two dwelling houses between Berlin and Townsend; when the country was infested by wild beasts and wilder men, and wagon roads were almost unknown. In conclusion he exhibited the skin of a wild cat, shot some six weeks since, in the Big Windfall, Ottawa county.

HON. F. D. PARISH,

Being called for, said in substance:

"When I came into the county I went into a little village and began the practice of law. Don't know of any hunting stories. The only hunting excursion I was ever engaged in, was one organized in Sandusky, in the winter of 1833. The country about Sandusky was then very new. The hunting party were to form a circle, extending from Cedar Point to Bloomingville, and thence to Venice. At a given signal the hunters were to close up on the game and drive it into the bay; but, unfortunately, the bay was frozen over, and the game took to the ice and thus escaped. Mr. Townsend, the pioneer of Townsend township, was originally a resident of Sandusky; and the voters of the county, then Huron, were limited indeed, there being but little over 50,000 in all the United States. At that time there was one unbroken forest from Sandusky to Columbus. The stories of the pioneers will be of interest to all who come after them; even the names of the first settlers will have an increasing interest with each succeeding year. Since I settled here, forty-five years ago this spring, one by one the old men have departed, and soon the last one will be taken home."

MR. TILLINGHAST

said the earliest recollection he had of Mr. Parish was some thirty or thirty-five years ago, when he (Mr. Parish) was practicing law, and was famous for his *long speeches*. At that period Mr. Tillinghast was teaching school in Norwalk. In 1831 there was no school house or church in Norwalk. Three meetings were held in the old seminary, (since burned.) The late Platt Benedict read the services of the Episcopal Church in the first story, and the methodists occupied the basement. The second story was occupied at times by various other denominations. The Baptists held their meetings in the Court-house, and he (Mr. Tillinghast) used to blow an old tin horn in the doorway to call Mr. Moss and his neighbors to meeting. Uncle Keeler, who was at that time a regular attendant at church, was elected Constable and Coroner *for life*. In 1831 the town of East Townsend consisted of the old store of Mr. William Townsend and three dwellings.

JAMES ARNOLD

said, "I removed from Utica, N. Y., thirty-five years ago, bringing my wife and a young lady with me—was detained four days at Buffalo, waiting transportation. After reaching Milan, I counted my money and found myself possessed of just seventy-five cents. After working in

Milan a few days I was taken sick. As soon as I was sufficiently recovered, brother and I packed up our goods and started for Townsend. Our goods consisted of bed and bedding, a barrel of flour and a five pail kettle—the latter intended for boiling sap. After locating and tapping sugar bush, I went back to Milan and returned with the "women folks," in the midst of a severe storm of sleet and snow. After the women were established in their new home, brother and I made daily trips to the sugar bush, and at length the last day of sugar making came, and in order to finish the work, we remained out until nearly nine at night. We then started for home. On the way I became very tired and said, "Brother, I haven't twenty-five cents in the world, but I would give my note for two or three dollars if this pail of sugar was safely at home." It was now snowing furiously. Reaching home we found the fire out, our suppers cold, and the women folks gone. They had gone to look for us. The neighbors were at once aroused, and with horn-blowing the search after the lost women was commenced. The snow was now about two feet deep. In passing through the woods deer would spring up almost near enough to knock us down. The search was continued all night, and in the morning we heard the prolonged sound of the horn off some four miles, in the direction of the Barber Settlement. My wife and the girl had started out to meet us, and in crossing a stream the girl slipped from the log into the water. My wife told her that "frightened people never caught cold," and they walked on, but somehow missed the trail and were lost. After walking for several hours the girl gave out and told my wife to leave her, but my wife took her up and carried her along. Their dresses had several times become clogged with ice, and they were obliged to knock it off with clubs. At last they came in sight of the cabin of an old man known in the settlement as the "Hog-hunter." He lived by hunting in the winter and in the summer fished for suckers. He had a wife and a family of some twenty-five or thirty children, mostly boys, who were known as the "Wilkinson tribe." Mrs. Wilkinson prepared them a breakfast of the best she had, (fried suckers and johnny cake, with burnt corn coffee.) Soon after I arrived with my team and took my wife and the girl home.

E. O. MERRY

said in substance: "Father moved to Milan in 1811. I was two years old at that time. In 1812 father was drafted into the army. Occasionally the women would become frightened on the approach of the Indians, when all hands would move into the old fort, where they would remain until the women or children would get to quarreling, when they would move back home.

"I have lived on the Fire Lands all my life except about five months. I know all about Townsend; when a boy had the name fearfully impressed upon my mind by father threatening if the boys did not behave themselves he would *send them to Townsend.*"

MARTIN DENMAN

moved to Townsend in 1832. At that time it required all the neighbors for several miles around to raise a building.

AMOS H. FINCH

could remember the time when men came up from Dunham to assist in putting up buildings. In those times whisky was a necessary article, and some of them occasionally took a little too much. On one of these occasions a man by the name of

Hendricks, in company with others, was overcome while on the way home, and lay down under a tree to rest. In the night the wolves came, and the rest of the party went up a tree. Hendricks was too drunk to climb, and after making several attempts to get up he turned over on his elbow and exclaimed, "D—n 'em let 'em howl, I'm not afraid." Mr. Finch had been a resident of Townsend for thirty years the 15th of last March.

O. H. VAN TASSAL

came to Townsend with Mr. French, and polled his first vote in the old block house, built and occupied as a store. Twenty-eight votes were polled at that time in the township. Mr. Boardman, Clerk of the election, was present at this meeting. The country looked wild to him at that time. It has made some little progress since.

OBITUARY NOTICES.

PLATT BENEDICT.

Died, at his residence in Norwalk, on Thursday morning, October 25th, 1866, Platt Benedict, the venerable President of the Fire Lands Historical Society, aged 91 years, 7 months and 7 days.

The Patriarch is gone! This intelligence will fall on many ears with a sad and mournful interest. The citizens of the Fire Lands have regarded with filial affection, and in his declining years almost with reverence, the venerable man who, for half a century, has been the pioneer settler of Norwalk.

He was born in Danbury, Conn., March 18, 1775, located in Norwalk in 1815, and moved his family here in 1817. He built the first house in the place, a log one, in 1817, which, in 1819, gave way to the brick house in which he spent his days, and was the first brick one built. In 1818 he built the first barn in town, a frame one. He set out the first apple orchard, and in 1832 introduced the first improved stock. In 1818 the first religious meeting of Norwalk was held in his house. He was the first Post-master in Norwalk, having been appointed in 1818, and served until removed by General Jackson in 1828. In 1820 he assisted in organizing the first Sabbath School in the place, which was held in the Court-house and attended by nearly all the children in town. He was elected Justice of the Peace in 1828–31, and Mayor in 1835–40–45 and 1856. He was the first President of the Huron County Agricul-

tural Society, in 1848. In 1857 he was elected President of the Fire Lands Historical Society, and continued in that position until his death. By none of those associated with him in his declining years will he be missed more than by that venerable and rapidly diminishing band of Pioneer Fathers and Mothers with whom he was wont to meet, and of whom he was the chief. Those present at the September meeting, in Greenfield, will not soon forget the solemn and almost prophetic language in which he reminded his venerable associates that their days on earth were almost finished, and most of them would never meet again.

Like a "shock of corn fully ripe," he has closed his eventful career, and as he sleeps amid the beautiful groves planted by his hands, long may his memory be held in grateful remembrance by this whole community, who enjoy the fruits of his labors.

The funeral of the deceased took place on the Sunday following, and was conducted by the Knight Templars from various parts of Northern Ohio, trains having been run for that purpose from Cleveland and Toledo. The sermon was delivered by Rev. Mr. Marks, of Huron.

As a more full account of his life in connection with the half century history of Norwalk, is to be prepared by able hands, an extended notice will not now be given, and we close with the impressive and affecting words of his cherished friend, the Rev. Mr. Marks, at the grave, in the presence of assembled thousands: "Venerable man! May thy ashes rest in peace, and the clods fall lightly upon thy bosom! Thy virtues will be embalmed forever in in our heart of hearts. Fare thee well!"

ROUSE BLY.

BY J. H. NILES, OF NORWICH.

Rouse Bly was of New England parentage. His father, Joseph Bly, was born in Rhode Island, in 1761, served through the Revolutionary War, and after its close married Miss Hannah Rathbone, moved to the State of New York, and settled in Norway, Herkimer County. Rouse Bly was born July 10th, 1793, and was the fifth in a family of nine children. Common schools were almost unknown during his boyhood, and the little education he afterwards acquired was picked up through the requirements of his business, by his own application to study during his leisure moments. In 1806, at the age of thirteen, he was apprenticed to Benjamin Marvin, of Utica, to learn the carpenter's trade. Being naturally ingenious, he became an accurate and expert workman. He served in the war of 1812 three months, at Plattsburg, as a substitute for an older brother.

In the spring of 1815, at the age twenty-two, he left Utica with a horse, light wagon, chest of tools, and what money he had saved by working at his trade, and traveled westward, making his first stop with an old acquaintance at Meadville, Pa. He found plenty of work in his trade, and stayed till late in the fall of 1817, laying up in the two years considerable money. He left Meadville and spent the winter of 1817–18 in traveling. He came to Mt. Vernon and struck South, crossed the Ohio River into Kentucky, re-crossed at Cincinnati, and came to Columbus during the session of the Legislature, and there formed the acquaintance of the member from Richland County, Mordecai Bartley, and through his influence came to Mansfield, and bought a half section of land some five miles

west of Mansfield. Mr. Bly then returned to Meadville, Pa., settled up his business, shipped his tools to Huron, came back to Mansfield, went to Huron for his tools, and early in the summer of 1818 called on Major Underhill, in Ridgefield Township, an old York State acquaintance. He took the contract to build a barn for the Major, and in the course of the summer of 1818 built the barn now standing near the saw mill, two miles west of Norwalk. His account reads, "September 8th, 1818, David Underhill Dr., to building one barn, $80. By his account, $4. Balanced accounts by his giving his note of hand for $76." Mr. Bly worked at his trade mostly in Milan and Norwalk till the winter of 1819, seldom losing a day's work, and in the two years saved, mostly in notes of hand, about $800. In the spring of 1820 he went to work in New Haven and married Miss Mary Barney, and soon after moved onto his lot west of Mansfield. His land was heavily timbered and an unbroken forest. Enos Rose says he built a cabin in the usual style, with the exception that he had boards for doors and upper floor, and his neighbors thought it rather aristocratic.

While working in Meadville, Mr. Bly joined the Free Masons and progressed to the Royal Arch degree, and while working in Norwalk he was a Charter member of Mt. Vernon Lodge, at Norwalk, and on moving on his farm removed his masonic membership to Mansfield. From 1820 to 1825, he cleared up seventy acres of his land and built a saw mill on it, gave up his trade and became in reality a backwoods farmer. In 1822 he was elected a Justice of the Peace, and his commission bears the signature of Governor Allen Trimble. In 1825 he sold out and bought a farm in New Haven, a half mile north of Plymouth, moved to it, and there spent the remaining working days of his life.

In 1829 his wife died, leaving him with six small children. Mrs. Bly was born in 1803, in Luzerne County, Pennsylvania.

In 1830 Mr. Bly married Mrs. Sophia Coe, widow of Luther Coe., and half-sister to his first wife. She was left a widow with six small children, and when the two families became one Mr. Bly was at the head of a family of twelve children, the oldest not twelve years old, and graded in couples from the oldest to the youngest, with less than two years between them. By the second marriage six more children were added to the family, making eighteen in all. Although his own education was meagre, Mr. Bly was a warm advocate for schools and was anxious to educate his children. For a number of years he furnished a school room in his own house, hired and boarded a teacher and kept up a school for his own family and such of his neighbors as he could accommodate. To use Mr. Bly's own words, his best days were those in which his family was the largest. His farm was large and well improved, and he always kept a large stock of cattle, sometimes over a hundred head, and always had enough to provide with.

In 1842 Mr. Bly was elected County Commissioner, and served four years. He was a petitioning member of the Chapter Lodge at Norwalk, in 1821, and a Charter member of the Masonic Lodge at Plymouth, in 1851, and held offices wherever he was a member. The powers of his mind were above those of the average of men—quick to comprehend, clear in discrimination and sound in judgment. In politics he was formerly a Whig, then a Republican, strongly anti-slavery, and always active in selecting the best men for office. His kindness and benev-

olence were proverbial. Enos Rose says "when shivering humanity stood at his door he never stopped to ask what made him poor." But he delighted most to assist the young who were just starting in the world; and it was this trait of his character and the confidence he had in those he sought to assist, that finally brought his fine property into peril and sold his homestead a short time before his death. His wife died in 1854, and after that time he made his home with his daughter, Mrs. Clarinda Lawrence.

Of Mr. Bly's twelve children, only six lived to marry, and only three are now living. Clarinda married Ebenezer Lawrence, of Norwich, and has two children. Lysander Bly married Mary J. Harris, and was private in the 11th Kansas regiment, and died at Fort Scott. He left a wife and three children. Samantha married Henry Insley, and died in Michigan, leaving two children.—Alvin Bly married Almira Tuttle, and died in Michigan, leaving a wife and three children. J. H. Bly married Sarah Blodget, and has children, and lives in Fairfield. He was Captain in the 1st Regiment Ohio Heavy Artillery. D. W. Bly was in the Commissary Department in the service, and when last heard from was starting home from New Orleans, and it is supposed that he was lost on the steamboat Sultana, on the Mississippi, in 1864. A. F. Bly married Sarah Acker, who died leaving one child. He married for his second wife Julia Pomeroy, and lives in Fairfield.

Mr. Bly was an early and active member of the Fire Lands Historical Society, and much of the interest manifested in its behalf in New Haven was due to his active and untiring exertions. Even after the partial failure of his eye sight, he continued his efforts successfully, when men of less perseverance would have been discouraged.

Mr. Bly died at the residence of his daughter, Mrs. Lawrence, in Norwich, September 4th, 1866. Mr. Lawrence and his wife were truly a son and daughter to him in his last lingering sickness—spared neither money nor pains to provide for his wants. A large concourse of Masons accompanied his remains from Norwich to New Haven, and after a sermon by the Rev. Mr. Hoke, pastor of the Episcopal Church of Plymouth, they were consigned to the grave with the ancient and impressive ceremonies of the Masonic order. He lived a true Mason, ever ready to relieve the wants of others, and always with a liberal hand.

JOAB SQUIRES.

On Sunday, the 31st of March, 1867, Mr. Joab Squires, one of the early pioneers of Florence, died at his home in that Township.

He was born in Fairfield Co., Conn. Nov. 2d, 1777. He lived near Westport, until 1799, when he married Mary Buckley, and moved to Southport in the same County. His occupation while living in Connecticut, was that of a sailor; owning and commanding a vessel engaged in the coasting trade between Boston, Mass. and Charleston, S. C. In 1810, his vessel was wrecked on Nantucket Shoals. He immediately purchased an interest in another, and in 1812, was captured by a privateer, but was subsequently released and returned to Boston.

He emigrated to Ohio, in 1815, arriving at Florence, the 15th day of July. He settled on Lot 29 in the 4th Section, on which he resided till death—52 years, and was buried on his own premises.

His first wife died many years ago, but his second, survives him. He had in all sixteen children, nine

of whom are now living. All but one of his children are married, and his descendants number nearly one hundred. For many years a family meeting was held regularly at Christmas, and these were always seasons of rare pleasure to him. His daughter Adaline and John Brooks, Jr., were the first couple married in the Township, and his daughter Ruth kept the first school. He was the first township clerk, having been elected in 1817.

He took a lively interest in the Fire Lands Historical Society, and furnished most of the information published, relative to to the early history of Florence.

He always maintained an irreproachable character, and was esteemed a useful citizen.

BENJAMIN BENSON.

Died, at Norwalk, January 20th, 1867, Benjamin Benson, aged 78 years, 8 months and 4 days.

Mr. Benson was born in the City of New York, May 16th, 1788. He was a soldier in the war of 1812, and during his campaigns is supposed to have obtained such information respecting the Fire Lands as to induce him to make that country his future home.

He removed from New York October 14th, 1817; and after a tedious journey, driving his own team, reached Florence December 2d, where he found a shelter for his family in Major Barnum's log house, without chimney or floor. Before Spring he had built a log cabin on his own land, in Clarksfield, to which he removed. Smith Starr and Simeon Hoyt, in June, 1817, were the first settlers of that township, and Mr. Benson with Samuel Husted and Eli Segar, were the next.

After remaining in Clarksfield many years, Mr. B. purchased a farm in the west part of Townsend, on which he resided till his removal to Norwalk, about three years ago.

Mr. Benson took much pleasure in preserving the records and incidents of the early settlements, and, when his health permitted, showed an active interest in the success of the Fire Lands Historical Society. He possessed much fancy and aptness for writing. Several of the historical sketches in the Pioneer are from his pen. In a ripe old age, he rests from his labors; and in his decease another link, which connects the present with the past, is severed.

ARCHIBALD EASTER.

Died, in Greenfield, May 1st, 1867, Mr. Archibald Easter, aged 83 years.

Mr. Easter was born in Ireland, but came to America in 1812. Stayed through the war and returned home, engaged in business, but finally broke up and returned to this country in 1819. He settled in Greenfield, where he lived until his death.—He was a man of rather superior abilities, of general intelligence, high social qualities, and much respected by a large circle of friends and relatives. A large concourse of pioneers and other friends followed him to the quiet grave.

ROBERT CROW.

Died, recently, near Centerton, Ohio, Mr. Robert Crow, aged 46 years.

He was an active business man; a member of the Fire Lands Historical Society, and leaves a widow with seven children and a large circle of friends to mourn his loss.

He was buried at Greenfield Center, according to the usages of the Odd Fellows, to which order he belonged.

MRS. NANCY RANSOM.

Died, at the residence of C. H. Ransom, in Margaretta, May 11th, Mrs. Nancy M. Ransom, wife of Judah

Wm. Ransom, deceased, in her seventy-sixth year.

Born in Connecticut, October 28, 1791. Married October 10th, 1813. Removed to Black River, in Ohio, in 1823; to Sandusky in 1825. She bore her full share of the trials incident to the settlement of new countries, with a patience and fortitude, seldom, if ever excelled. Although of a weak constitution, and frequently suffering from poor health, she found time to take care of her own family, and for a number of motherless children of others. Not forgetting our soldiers in the field during the last war; nor neglecting her opportunities for administering christian charities and consolation near home. Respected as a neighbor; valued as a friend. Many could imitate her example with profit; few with loss.

THE WAGGONER GATHERING.

The following account of one of the most pleasant social re-unions of the season, is given by a correspondent of the Toledo Commercial.

"The occasion was a 'surprise visit' by a large number of the pioneer friends and acquaintances of Mrs. LUCRETIA WAGGONER on the eightieth anniversary of her birthday. It was planned and executed to the very arrival of the guests, without the slightest knowledge on her part, and was in all respects a complete success. I may here remark, that Mrs. W. was formerly from Vermont, but resided from 1807 to 1815 in Western New York and Northern Pennsylvania, leaving for Ohio in June of the latter year. Some idea may be had of traveling in those days, when I state that in company with two other families (one of whom, that of a Mr. Townsend, went to the Maumee Valley,) she came in an open sail boat, stopping each night, using the "tent on the beach," and occupying two weeks in the trip to the mouth of the Huron river. Her return trip, 20 years afterwards, was made in 24 hours. It would be interesting, had I the time to tell the story of the pioneer experiences which fell to her lot, which are rich in incident, but I must proceed to the matter in hand.

It was arranged in the programme that the older and more infirm of the visitors were to make their call in the afternoon, and the others in the evening. The tide began to set in about two o'clock, and by four no less than 35 had arrived, being mostly ladies. About 4 o'clock the tables were spread with a great variety of choice provisions—*not* ex-

cepting the ample dish of pork and beans—which was discussed with a hearty relish, amid a chorus of voices seldom excelled. There were at the table those who had passed all the varied scenes of pioneer life, dating back anterior to the war of 1812, and coming down through all changes to this era of Railroads and Telegraphs.

As nightfall came on, the grayer heads began to disappear, and in the early evening the second division commenced arriving, and continued until one of the jolliest crowds had assembled that any town has witnessed.

Below I give a full list of the callers of this occasion, together with the year in which each settled here, (Milan,) to wit:

Mrs. Sally Demund, *nee* Abbot.....1810
Mrs. Philander Wilbor, *nee* Kellogg.....1812
Mrs. Jacob Stevens, *nee* Merry.....1814
Mrs. Eli Ruggles, *nee* Merry.....1814
Mrs. Volney Beverstock, *nee* Reed.....1816
Jacob stevens.....1816
Mrs. Anson Bissell, *nee* McKinney.....1817
Mrs. Henry Kelley.....1817
Mrs. Bartow.....1817
Seth Jennings.....1817
Mrs. Wm. Dimon, *nee* Fay.....1818
Mrs. Seth Jennings, *nee* Kline.....1819
Mrs. John Smith, *nee* Kline.....1819
James C. Lockwood.....1819
Mrs. K. Townsend.....1819
Mrs. F. W. Fowler.....1819
Mrs. G. W. Mears, *nee* Burt.....1819
Mrs. Richard Burt, *nee* Messenger.....1820
Clark Waggoner.....1820
Daniel Hamilton.....1821
Mrs. L. Galpin, *nee* Adams.....1824
Mrs. M. Stuart, *nee* Adams.....1825
Mrs. Levi Wilcoxson.....1825
David Wilcoxson.....1825
Baxter Ashley.....1826
Mrs. David Wilcoxson, *nee* Collins.....1827
Delazon Dimon.....1829
Volney Beverstock.....1829
Mrs. Hamilton Colton, *nee* Allen.....1834
Dr. L. Galpin.....1834
Hiram McMillen.....1834
Mrs. Baxter Ashley, *nee* Sturtevant.....1835
Mrs. Geo. Lockwood.....1835
Mrs. Stephen Sanders, *nee* Lockwood.....1835
Dr. M. Stuart.....1835
Mrs. Geo. R. Gaston, *nee* Bissell.....1835
Miss Rosanna Bissell.....1835
Mrs. Robert Gordon.....1836
Mrs. Hiram McMillen.....1836
Timothy Hall.....1837
Mrs. W. I. Bill, *nee* Horner.....1839
Mrs. J. W. Stokes.....1841
Mrs. Timothy Hall.....1841
S. P. Beckwith.....1842
Mrs. James Horner.....1842
Mrs. C. Waggoner.....1843
Mrs. Sarah Morrison.....1843
Mrs. S. P. Beckwith.....1844
Mrs. Elizabeth Smith.....1844
Mrs. E. H. Gibbs.....1844
Mrs Martin Merry, *nee* Delamater.....1845
Mrs. F. G. Lockwood.....1848

Besides these were Rev. J. H. Walter and Rev. Mr. Pollock and ladies, and other acquaintances not properly classsed as old settlers. This is without doubt the largest gathering of pioneers convened in this region in a great many years, and it is not likely that another such will seen, unless it be held before the rapidly depleting process much farther reduces their numbers. It was indeed, a joyous time, which all participants can not repeat too often."

OBSERVER.

PERSONAL REMINISCENCES.

THE SICKLY SEASONS OF 1819 & 1836—BY JUDGE H. FOWLER.

Having been requested to write an article for the Pioneer, I have concluded to give my own experience in pioneer life, and in connection give some account of the sickness endured by the early settlers of the country.

I left my native town, Westfield, Massachusetts, in January, 1816, a few weeks before the anniversary that ushered in my twentieth year, bound for the then far West. I arrived at Ashtabula about the middle of February, at which place I remained a few weeks. My next headquarters were located at Bloomfield, Trumbull County, and I remained on the Reserve through the summer, traveling some in the counties of Trumbull, Geauga, Cuyahoga and Ashtabula. In the fall I took up my residence in Perry, Geauga County. At that time the road between Cleveland and Doan's, four miles east, was not cut out. Large white oak trees were standing in the middle of the highway, though the small stuff had been removed. The same ground is now occupied by a part of the city of Cleveland.

My first visit to the Firelands was in February, 1818. I came along the Lake Shore road, found settlements at Rocky, Black, Vermillion and Huron Rivers, and a few cabins scattered along between those places. At Ogontz Place, now Sandusky City, the settlement consisted of a small cluster of houses. Taking to the ice on the Bay I arrived at Venice about 8 o'clock P. M.; found it quite the largest village west of Cleveland, containing several public houses, stores, dwellings, shops, &c., and a population of several hundred. The most prominent event in anticipation at that time by the citizens was the erection of a Flouring Mill, and considerable progress had been made in excavating the mill race, to introduce Cold Creek, which was to be the propelling power. Considerable trade was at that time carried on; large quantities of salt were sold, not only to the people of the Firelands, but to citizens of Richland, Knox and other counties. The most prominent business men were Major Oliver Barrett, who was from the vicinity of Albany, New York, Dr. A. Banning, from Mount Vernon, Richland County, Mr. Reed, Smith & Lindsay, merchants, some mechanics by the name of Adkins, from New York, three brothers by the name of Wentworth—one a physician—also of New York, and others of various vocations whose names are forgotten. Two large warehouses were erected, and quite a number of the houses were large, substantial frame buildings, some of which have since been washed away. One mile west of Venice was a Saw Mill with a small Grist Mill attached, which was a great convenience in the building up of the village.

Margaretta township at that time contained about thirty families, exclusive of Venice. The snow at

that time was about fourteen inches deep, affording as fine sleighing as I have seen at any time since.

I returned to Geauga, now Lake County, by the Ridge road, through Berlin, Florence, Black River and Elyria townships. In all of those places there were some settlers—only one family in Elyria. Mr. Ely, the proprietor of that place, had been out the summer before and cleared fifty acres, built a saw and grist mill, and the miller's family was the only one there at that time.

In June following, I made my second visit to the Firelands. Passing through Sandusky I noticed the erection of a frame for a store, which was the first frame building in the city. I took up a permanent residence in Margaretta in October, 1818. There had been much sickness in Venice the previous summer, several of the prominent business men having died, among whom were Major Oliver Barrett, Mr. Smith, (merchant,) Dr. Wentworth and others. Many remained feeble with ague and fever, while a large number left the village for a more healthy place, and the village became almost depopulated. It continued for years and did not revive as a place of business until the building of the mills.

The winter of 1818–19 was very mild, though in December we had some very cold weather. January was as favorable for ploughing as need be and we had some snow and frost in February. We had an early spring, and heavy rains during the summer, which caused high water in the creeks and inundated the low lands, a large portion of which produced an unusually heavy growth of grass and herbage, which, if not consumed by the prairie fires, decayed, filling the atmosphere with malaria, which could not be expected to pass off without causing much sickness. The south-west quarter of the township was a low marsh. In wet seasons a large part of it was under water, and in extreme hot weather produced much sickness.

About the middle of August my uncle's family (Deacon Richard Falley) were taken sick. The family consisted of uncle, aunt, four children, and the late John Weeden, Esq., of Sandusky City. His first wife was the daughter of Deacon Falley.—Uncle, aunt, and Mr. Weeden were sick with fever and ague, and in those days fever and ague meant something. It was most horrible to endure. I have seen "shakes" last two hours, shaking patient, bed-stead and floor, and when all three were shaking it did seem almost an earthquake. After the shakes the patient generally fell into a tranquil sleep for a short time, then came a high fever, delirium, all sorts of indistinct talking, a burning thirst that continued for hours; then the patient, as the fever subsided, became more quiet—perhaps would rest tolerably well through the night—in the morning take some breakfast, and have a short time to wait for the returning operation, which was repeated day after day, week after week, for an indefinite period. Mrs. Weeden's case was different. She had a fever that proved fatal in four weeks. The children had the ague part of the time. It was not as severe on them generally. One or more were able to render some assistance in taking care of others. It was all I could do, with their help, to attend to the wants of the sick and do house work, as it was impossible to get help of any kind, though the neighboring women would frequently come in and render what assistance they could. This state of things continued until October, when I became subject to the same disease, with the addition of boils and swellings that disabled me for weeks. The others were more comfortable. Thus we continued through the winter a most

miserable family, no one having strength to do much. None could chop wood for the fires, and sometimes we were greatly in need. Convalescents generally were afflicted with an enormous appetite, and it was sometimes difficult to get food enough cooked for a meal for the family. I recollect once we had a girl for a few days and she was cooking a mess of beans for dinner. When she was ready to take them up they had nearly all disappeared, as one and another had taken a few. Many times a return of the disease was caused by overeating.

I have given a description of one family only, but the sickness was general. Every family had more or less sickness—even among the old residents. Dr. Samuel Stevens, then a resident of Bloomingville, told me he left home one day about the middle of the afternoon, rode west through Groton township, then south to the Ridge, and arrived home sometime in the night, having visited more than forty patients. He passed by some families that were not as sick, upon whom he would have called had it not been in the night.

A young man called one afternoon for a drink. After drinking freely of cold water he was taken with the "shakes;" then followed a high fever that lasted until morning, he being delirious all night. In the morning after a light breakfast he was able to return to his home on Pipe Creek. He was one of the first settlers and fully acclimated to the country. I have not seen a year since of such universal sickness, though it was usual to have fevers and fever and ague during the latter part of every season; but this peculiar type of the disease has mostly disappeared.

Some fifteen years later another more malignant disease made its appearance, and I give my experience as it appeared in my own family and that of my neighbors.

It has generally been called milk sickness or sick-stomach, as vomiting or sickness at the stomach is a peculiar characteristic of the disease. August 8th, 1836, my third daughter, nearly eight years old, was taken sick. The second day she was prostrated and seemed to be sinking rapidly, but revived by the help of medicine. She was taken vomiting in the evening of the second day and died on the morning of the fifth day, having had medical attendance during her entire sickness. On the 10th of August my second daughter, a remarkably robust girl nearly eleven years old, was taken with vomiting, attended with high fever and the most intense restlessness, that continued for three days, when her case assumed a more sinking form and her life was only kept up by the use of the most powerful stimulants and chafing the extremities, which continued for several days when she revived and seemed better. Her physician thought there was no further use of medicine, and for several days she seemed doing well, but began to complain of soreness in the throat, which resulted in the rupture of a blood vessel and a profuse discharge of blood from the nose and mouth, which prostrated her very much, and on the 27th of August she breathed her last. On the 8th of September my only son, a little over five years old, was taken sick with the same disease and died in two and a half days.

My wife, who was much worn down by fatigue, was taken with the same disease on the 7th of September, and her case was promptly attended by three skillful physicians, but without success. She died on the 21st of September, being the fourth member of my family consigned to the grave in the short space of six weeks and three days.

I have been thus particular in describing this disease, as it appear-

ed in my own family, that those unacquainted with the disease might form some idea of it in its most malignant form.

Every case in my family proved fatal, and I do not know of a like instance in this or the adjoining townships. The year following, one of my neighbors, Mr. Peter Trove, and most of his family, were taken down with the same disease, all about the same time. It resulted in the death of the mother and the oldest son. Some four or five cases recovered.

Physicians, in those days, and others were not sure what was the cause of this disease. Some contended it was caused by the milk, while others scouted the idea; but it is now very satisfactorily ascertained that it comes from some poison that is eaten by the cattle, and the same is communicated both to the milk and flesh of the animal. Young calves are sometimes subjects of the disease. Some suppose they have found the weed that contains the poison. In all cases I am satisfied it is to be found in the forest or rich heavy land. I have not let my cows run at large since 1836, and have not had a case or anything like the disease since; and this is universally the case. We hear of the disease now only when the cows run in the woods. About the year 1840 I turned a yoke of oxen out, after I had done spring plowing. They run in the thick woods, became quite fleshy and I took them up to gather my harvest. One of them gave out the second day and died soon after. A year or two later my neighbor's cows ran in the same woods, and the result was the sick stomach in his family, one case proving fatal.

I might have written more of the sickness of 1818. There were many deaths among children, who were reduced by fever and then taken with the whooping-cough. I have thought for years past there ought to be a more special record of the early sickness in this part of the Firelands, and I once spoke to a physician, then in practice, to make it. As it has not been done, I have in a hasty way given you some of my experience.

MARGARETTA, April 8th, 1867.

MISCELLANEOUS ARTICLES.

HAYING AND SPARKING ON SUNDAY IN 1812.

The Ashtabula *Sentinel* publishes some interesting records, which were lately found in the Recorder's office of that county, bearing date as far back as 1812. A new arrangement of the shelves of the office required the books to be taken down, when the items published below were brought to light, having slumbered quietly in the dust for over half a century. The records quoted, however, are remarkable only as showing the strict Puritanism of the time, and the persistent spirit in which small infractions of the Sunday law were punished. "Sparking

Sunday night" was at this period considered extremely immoral, and had the author of that happy song, entitled "Sparking Sunday Night," have lived at this time and been known, the extreme penalty of outraged morality would have been meted out to him. Here is an extract from the Record:

State of Ohio vs. Calvin Knowlton.

May 18, 1812.—Upon inquiry it appears that Calvin Knowlton is guilty of riding from the township of Morgan to the township of Lebanon, on the Sabbath day evening, previous to sunset, to see his sweetheart. Therefore, it is my opinion that the said Knowlton pay to me the sum of one dollar for breaking the laws of morality.

T. R. HAWLEY, J. P.

Truth. JONA WARNER, Dep. Rec.

Whether Calvin afterwards continued to ride from Morgan to Lebanon on Sunday, to see his "sweetheart," and break the laws of morality, does not appear. It is safe to suppose not, however, as this is the only instance of immorality against him on the records. Doubtless said sweetheart was left to pine away in miserable melancholy, as Calvin was too industriously engaged on week days to spend time for such amusements as sparking, and too sensitive to public opinion to be known as an immoral young man, and be recorded as such by a "J. P.," with the word "Truth," written in the same line. Here is another Sabbath breaker who shared Calvin's fate, but whose crime is of a much graver character. This is so recognized by the "J. P.," who fines him seventy-five cents and costs, while Calvin settled the entire bill for a dollar:

State of Ohio, Ashtabula Co., ss.

July 12, 1812.—By virtue of a warrant, Jonathan Warner appeared before me, and after witnesses being heard, it is my opinion that the said Warner pay the sum of seventy-five cents and costs, for raking eight cocks of hay on the Sabbath of the 11th day of July, 1812, notwithstanding the said Warner's hay might have been injured by a heavy thunder shower.

EZRA DIBBLE, J. P.

Truth. JONA. WARNER, Recorder.

The mention of the thunder storm is spread upon the records to break the acuteness of Jonathan's pangs, and it is safe to infer that, had it not been a *heavy* thunder storm, Jonathan would never have ventured out.

These things show the sturdy root of the tree of morality, which in a soil rich in christianizing influences, has outgrown the weeds of religious intolerance, and bears golden apples, whose fruit we each day enjoy.—[Cleveland Leader, Nov. 12, 1866.

MRS. POLLY HASKINS—THE OLDEST PERSON IN OHIO.

"There is now living in the southeast portion of Camden, Lorain Co., Ohio, a Mrs. Polly Haskins, who is one hundred and fifteen years of age, having been born in July, 1752. She was seventeen years old at the commencement of the revolutionary war. When the British first landed in New London, Conn., she and her parents were obliged to quit their home—she traveling on foot, and carrying a feather bed twenty miles the first day. They could see the smoke of their dwelling as the work of devastation, by the British, went on. She is now of sound mind, and hale and hearty."

The above paragraph, which has been extensively copied by the newspapers, is not entirely correct. She was born at Dartmouth, Mass., July 16th, 1759, and consequently is nearly one hundred and eight years old. Her husband has been dead about fifteen years. When the British landed on Long Island, he and

family were compelled to flee and suffered much from privations. He then joined the army and drew one year's rations for his family. The old lady thought they fared pretty hard in those days. She says that she lived for weeks on bare plantain leaves boiled in water. The old lady is quite active now, so that she gets out of doors. She has had ten children, eight of whom are living.

The above has been ascertained from personal inquiry, and is believed to be reliable.

AN INCIDENT OF HULL'S SURRENDER.

Among the original proprietors and settlers of Worthington, Franklin county, Ohio, was Levi Pinney, who was born in Simsbury, Connecticut, in 1782, and arrived in Ohio in 1803. We learn from a sketch in the Columbus *Journal* that Captain Pinney has been a resident of Worthington from its settlement up to the present time, except during the war of 1812, in which he commanded a company in the First Regiment Ohio Volunteers, commanded by Duncan McArthur, who was afterwards Governor of Ohio, and was with his company at the famous "Hull's Surrender," and he has never yet, to his knowledge, been *exchanged.*

One incident during the campaign is worthy of a place here. General Hull called a council of his officers to decide whether the army should advance or not, they then being near Malden, Canada.

At this council were Colonel McArthur and Lewis Cass, with others of note. McArthur was in favor of advancing; Hull was opposed to it. Much bitter feeling was exhibited by both; when at last McArthur took his pistols from his belt, and laying them on a table, said to General Hull, choose one of them and we will soon see whether this army will advance or not. Had he accepted that invitation the history of that affair would have been different from what it is, as it is clear if they had advanced they could easily have taken Malden, instead of submitting to an inglorious surrender.—*Toledo Commercial.*

THANKSGIVING.

To the Editor of the Cincinnati Gazette:

In accordance with the Proclamations of the President of the United States and the Governors of a large number of the different commonwealths, Thursday, November 29th, will be observed as a day of Thanksgiving to God, for the blessings bestowed upon us as a nation, as separate States and as individuals.

The origin of this eminently appropriate custom of course must be traced back to the Jewish feast of ingathering. As an American custom it had its beginning in the Plymouth colony, 1623, and was ordained by the very persons who came in the May Flower.

The first years of the sturdy Puritans were years of toil and frequent distress.

In 1620, the first year of their colonial existence, Miles Standish and sixteen associates were directed by Providence to the heaps of food stored away in and around the Indian graves, which preserved the infant colony from famine and gave them seed for a future harvest. Cotton Mather makes this record:

"For two years together, after the beginning of the colony, the poor people had a great experiment of *man's not living by bread alone;* for where they were left without a morsel of bread for many months, one after another, still the good providence of God relieved them and supplied them for the most part, out of the sea."

The summer of 1623 was marked by severe drought, which threatened a total failure of crops, and consequent starvation to the colony.

In this extremity the God fearing band appealed to the hand which rules the rain and the storm. A day of humiliation and prayer was set apart by the Government and solemly observed by the people. In answer to their Elijah like prayers the rains descended; the crops yielded an abundant harvest, and the people were saved from the horrors of famine.

In grateful and pious acknowledgment of these blessings, the first American thanksgiving was proclaimed and duly celebrated.

In 1630, the Plymouth colony numbered only three hundred souls, but received a large and important addition when the fleet of fourteen sail came safely to harbor in Massachusetts Bay.

As a suitable remembrance of God's further care and kindness, by this addition of eight hundred and forty colonists, the second public thanksgiving was observed July 8th, 1630.

In the epitome of laws published by Plymouth colony in 1636 we find "that it be the power of the Governor and assistants to command solemn daies of humilicion by fasting, &c. Also for thanksgiving, as occasion shall be offered." A fine of five shillings was decreed against any who did any work on public fast or thanksgiving days.

Thanksgiving Day was observed in 1651. On the occasion of peace with the Dutch a public thanksgiving was decreed in 1654.

In 1668 the Court of Plymouth Colony issued the following:

"The Court takeing notice of the goodnes of God to us in the continuance of our civill and religious liberties, the generall health that wee haue enjoyed, and that it hath pleased God in some comfortable measure to blesse vs in the fruites of the earth, doe conceiue that these and other fauors doe call vpon vs for returnes of thankfulness to the Lord, whoe might justly have dwelt otherwise with vs, and therefore that wee may be joynt in this our sacrifice, doe propose vnto the seuerall congregations of this gou'ment, that the 25th day of November next, which wilbe ye fourth day of the weeke, to be kept as a solemne day of *thanksgiveing* with respect to his goodnes in the p'ticulares abouemensioned, and what p'ticulare places and p'sons may propose to themselues as causes of thankfulness."

Thanksgiving was observed in East Jersey Nov. 2, 1676, and Nov. 26, 1679.

The Plymouth records show further that public thanksgiving days were appointed Nov. 20, 1680; Nov. 3, 1686; June 27, 1689, and Nov. 26, 1690. The records of the colonies for the most part omit to mention the thanksgiving days after 1700, because about this date the day was annually observed. In 1705, the annual thanksgiving in Connecticut was appointed for the first Thursday of November, and was so observed, except in the town of Colchester, where it was postponed, by a formal public vote until the second Thursday of the same month, on account of a want of a *supply of molasses*, "an article," says the record, "much used on such occasions."

The Congress of 1777, the one which proposed for the adoption by States, the articles of Confederation, adopted a resolution setting apart "the 18th day of December, 1777, to be observed as a day of solemn thanksgiving and praise throughout the United States."

This same Congress also directed the Committee on Commerce to import twenty thousand copies of the Bible.

The following note from the orderly book, Dec. 17, 1777, near Valley Forge, will be read with interest:

"To-morrow being the day set apart by the honorable Congress for *public thanksgiving* and praise, and duty calling us devoutly to express our grateful acknowledgments to God for the manifold blessings he has granted us, the General directs that the army remain in its present quarters, and that the chaplains perform divine service with their several corps and brigades; and earnestly exhorts all officers and soldiers, where absence is not indispensably necessary, to attend with reverence the solemnities of the day."

Also the following army thanksgiving on the intelligence of the treaty with France.

"ORDERLY BOOK, VALLEY FORGE,
May 6, 1778.

"It having pleased the Almighty Ruler of the universe to defend the cause of the United American States, and finally to raise us up a powerful friend among the princes of the earth to establish our liberty and independence upon a lasting foundation, it becomes us to set apart a day for gratefully acknowledging the divine goodness and celebrating the important event which we owe to His divine interposition.

"The several brigades are to be assembled for this purpose at 9 o'clock to-morrow morning, when their chaplains will communicate the intelligence and offer up thanksgiving and deliver a discourse suitable to the occasion."

A part of the other details, the various signals and discharges, including three general huzzas; first, "Long live the King of France;" second, "Long live the friendly European Powers;" third, "The American States."

Congress proclaimed a public thanksgiving for November 26, 1789, on account of the capitulation at Yorktown.

President Washington also proclaimed a thanksgiving January 1st, 1795.

From the foundation of our present form of government to the present time this grand old New England custom has been observed in an increasing number of the Western and Southern States.

For some years past the proclamation has been issued from the capital of the United States by the President. For many years the designation of the day was made by the Governors of the separate States; and as there was no concert of expression, diffierent days were chosen by different States. The custom now is, and we trust ever will be, that the day selected by the President shall be the day for thanksgiving throughout all the States.

As a suitable close to this historical outline of the observance of thanksgiving, we append the first few verses of a short poem by Wm. B. Tappan. L. L.

A SAPPHIC FOR THANKSGIVING.

"When the old fathers of New England sought to honor
The Heavens with substance and with first fruits,
They, with their blessings, all uncounted, summed up
their undeserving.

"They praised Jehovah for the wheat sheaves gathered;
For corn, and cattle, and the thrifty orchards—blessings
Of basket, storehouse, homestead, hamlet, of lard and
water.

"They praised Jehovah for the depth of riches opened
And lavished to a world of penury; wines, whose red
Ore, unpriced, unbought, is poured from viens unexhausted.

"They made confession of their open errors, honestly
Told God of their secret follies, afresh their service as
True vassals pledged Him, and then were merry.

"Strong was their purpose; nature made them nobles,
Religion made them Kings, to reign forever, hymns of
Thanksgiving were their happy faces, beaming in music."

FIFTY YEARS AGO.

The volumes of Niles' Register, published in Baltimore in 1816–17, contain the following items of Western interest:

A six-pounder cannon has been cast by Green & Co., of Cincinnati, executed in a manner that com-

mands the approbation of all who have seen it.

POPULATION OF CINCINNATI, 1815.—Free white males above twenty-one years of age, 1,045; other white persons of both sexes, 5,206; blacks and mulattoes, 247; total, 6,498.

POPULATION OF INDIANA.—The Western Eagle makes the aggregate of the several counties of the Territory of Indiana amount to 68,084 souls. No doubt the people will soon claim the right of being admitted as a State.

A steamboat has been very successfully employed in towing large vessels up the Mississippi to New Orleans, at the rate of two miles an hour, against the current and wind.

The difficulties and expenses which attended the transportation of public stores to frontier posts during the late war, have demonstrated the necessity of legislative intervention to encourage the establishment of good roads from the Hudson to the St. Lawrence, and to Lakes Erie, Ontario and Champlain.

We already flatter ourselves that at no distant period the communication between Buffalo and Detroit will be as regular and almost as expeditious as it now is between Albany and New York.

Cin. Gazette, Oct. 10th, 1866.

He who can read the following without a degree of mournful pleasure, has neither "music in his soul," nor feeling in his heart. It is a gem worth preserving; for it strikes a chord upon the heart which vibrates to the feelings of every man who can recollect he was once a boy. The tune is "John Anderson, my Jo," the real old fashioned John, which Burns wrote, and our fathers sang "forty years ago:"

FORTY YEARS AGO.

Tune—"John Anderson, my Joe."

I've wandered to the village, Tom, I've sat beneath the tree,
Upon the school-house play grounds, which sheltered you and me,
But none were there to greet me, Tom, and few were left you know,
Who played with us upon the ground some forty years ago.

The grass is just as green, Tom, bare footed boys at play,
Were sporting just as we did then, with spirits just as gay;
But the "Master" sleeps upon the hill, which coated o'er with snow,
Afforded us a sliding place, just forty years ago.

The old school-house is altered some, the benches are replaced
By new ones, very like the same, our pen-knives had defaced;
But the same old bricks are in the wall, the bell swings to and fro,
Its music's just the same dear Tom, 'twas forty years ago.

The boys are playing some old game, beneath the same old tree,
I do forget the name just now—you've played the same with me
On that same spot, 'twas played with knives, by throwing so and so,
The leader had a task to do—there forty years ago.

The river is running just as still, the willows on its side
Are larger than they were, dear Tom, the stream appears less wide;
But the grapevine swing is ruined now, where once we played the beau,
And swung our sweet-hearts—"pretty girls"—just forty years ago.

The spring that bubbled 'neath the hill, beside the spreading beach,
'Twas once so low—now so high, that I could hardly reach,
And kneeling down to get a drink, dear Tom, I started so,
To see how much that I am changed, since forty years ago.

Near by the spring, upon an elm, you know I cut your name,
Your sweetheart's just beneath it, Tom, and you did mine the same;
Some heartless wretch had peeled the bark,—'twas dying sure but slow,
Just as that one, whose name was cut, died forty years ago.

My lids have long been dry, Tom, but tears came in my eyes,
I thought of her I loved so well—those early broken ties;
I visited the old church yard, and took some flowers to throw
upon the graves of those we loved, some forty years ago.

Some are in the church-yard laid, some sleep beneath the sea,
But few are left of that old class, excepting you and me;
And when our time is come, dear Tom, and we are called to go,
I hope they'll lay us where we played, just forty years ago.

NEW ENGLAND IN THE WEST.

BY THOMAS BUCHANAN READ.

Read at the celebration of Forefather's Day, Cincinnati, Dec. 22d, 1866.

What hears our great eagle? What frightens the fawn;
What startles the savage, dusk-red as the dawn,
Till he flies like the shadows, far westward forlorn,
While out of the East walks the glory of morn?
Whence this thund'rous roar, that awakens the skies,
Making gaps where the sunshine looks down with surprise?
'Tis the ax of New England asserting its sway,
Like John, in the wilderness, clearing the way!

What homestead is this of the forest new-born,
Surveying well pleased its broad acres of corn,
While the porch to its lap woos the vines and the flowers,
These fair forest orphans, bereft of their bowers,
Where the laughter of children, the song of the maid
Make a music that brightens the primeval shade?
'Tis the New England home, nestled calm as a dove,
Proclaiming its mission of labor and love.

Who rings the loud anvil, who guides the deep plow,
Where solitude nursed her dark children but now!—
Who sows the new furrows with wide swinging hand,
With a gesture, as he were baptizing the land?—
Who flashes his scythe, like a brook on the plain?
Who drives the swift sickle?—who garners the grain?
Who tames the wild stream, teaching labor and rest?
The hardy New Englander, blessing the West.

Who sits at your desk, 'mid the murmuring school
With kindness and patience, the only true rule?
Who walks with his flock, like a shepherd of old,
Through the fields of the Sabbath that lead to the fold,
Then like a good sower, with well sifted seed,
Distributes the truths of his liberal creed—
Completing the task which the school-man began?
'Tis the noble New Englander toiling for man!

Who is it dares give, with no fear of disgrace,
His hand to his brother, in spite of his race;
Who asks not the question, "Who toils by my side?"
Who deems not that color and heart are allied;
Who stoops to the needy o'er pillows of pain,
With wisdom and goodness dividing his gain,
In the great human battle, doing all that he can?
It is still the New Englander fighting for man!

Who is it springs up when the gauntlet is flung,
No matter the source, if the war bell is rung;
Takes his place, never asking the creed or the hue
Of his comrade—content if his courage prove true?
Who shares his last cup and divides his last crust,
Though fainting with hunger or thirst in the dust?
With a patriot valor, though veteran or youth,
Behold the New Englander fighting for truth!

And when the war ends you will find him again
In the front rank of Progress, the honored of men;
Though his scepter be only the pen or the ax,
The hand of his purpose will never relax,
The fruit of his toil must be ever the best,
As to day we behold in the land of the West,
He soars with the eagle, though delving the sod—
A dauntless New Englander working for God.

A GOOD AND HONEST JUDGE.

John Dudley, of Raymond, New Hampshire, who was a Judge in that State from 1785 to 1807, and for the last twelve years of its Superior Court, was a remarkable man. He had not only no legal education, but little learning of any kind; yet he possessed a discriminating mind, a retentive memory, a patience which no labor could tire, an integrity proof alike against threats and flattery; and a free elocution, rude indeed, and often uncouth, but bold, clear and expressive; with a warmth of honest feeling which it was not easy to resist. Quick to feel and prompt to act, he was a resolute, strong minded man, intent on doing substantial justice in every case, though often indifferent to the forms and requirements of law. He did not always speak good English; "This 'ere plaintiff, and that 'ere defendant," "them lawyers," and "these 'ere witnesses," were expressions that often fell from his lips; but it was remarked by Arthur Livermore, who had practiced for many years before Judge Dudley, that "justice was never better administered in New Hampshire than when the Judges knew very little of what the lawyers call law." "You may

laugh," said the late Judge Theophilus Parsons, "at his law, and ridicule his language; but Dudley is, after all, the best Judge I ever knew in New Hampshire." To have received such praise, he must have been, on the whole, not ignorant of law, nor inattentive to its substantial requirements; and his ideas of it may be inferred from the conclusion of one of his charges to the jury, as once repeated by the late Gov. Plumer. It was somewhat in this style, with grammatical corrections:

"You have heard, gentlemen of the jury, what has been said in this case by the lawyers, the rascals; but no, I will not abuse them. It is their business to make a good case for their clients; they are paid for it, and they have done in this case well enough. But you and I, gentlemen, have something else to consider. They talk of law. Why, gentlemen, it is not law that we want, but justice. They would govern us by the common law of England. Trust me, gentlemen, common sense is a much better guide for us—the common sense of Raymond, Epping, Exeter, and the other towns which have sent us here to try this case between two of our neighbors. A clear head and an honest heart are worth more than all the lawyers.

"There was one good thing said at the bar. It was from Shakespeare, an English player, I believe. No matter. It is good enough almost to be in the Bible. It is this: "Be just, and fear not." That, gentlemen, is the law in this case, and law enough in any case. "Be just, and fear not." It is our business to do justice between the parties, not by any quirks of the law out of Coke or Blackstone, books that I never read, and never will; but by common sense and common honesty as between man and man. That is our business; and the curse of God is upon us if we neglect, or evade, or turn aside from it.

"And now, Mr. Sheriff, take out the jury; and you, Mr. Foreman, do not keep us waiting with idle talk, of which there has been too much already about matters which have nothing to do with the merits of the case. Give us an honest verdict, of which, as plain, common sense men, you need not be ashamed."

LAND MARKS DESTROYED.

In the fire which swept away several houses in Warren, Ohio, the other day, some venerable land marks were removed. The Western Reserve Chronicle says:

Some of the buildings destroyed were among the oldest in town. The corner building, owned by Mrs. Stone, was built about fifty-five years ago by Adamson Bently, a Baptist minister. In it was printed The Trump of Fame, the first paper published in Trumbull county, and we believe, on the Reserve. The dwelling of Mrs. King was also one of the olden time, having been erected more than a half century ago by John Leavitt, and occupied for several years by Jesse Holiday, as a hotel, being distinguished once in its history as the hotel of the town. It was very substantially built, and although it had weathered the storms of over fifty winters, it was yet in a good state of preservation.

MARRIED IN A WAGON.

At a meeting of the pioneers of Jefferson county, Ind., at Madison, one of them told a good story of the marriage at midnight of a rustic couple by Judge B., an old time worthy of that section.

The party drove up to the 'Squire's cabin. With a loud rap the 'Squire was aroused. Up went the latch string of the door, and the 'Squire called out:

"What is wanted?"

"'Squire we want to be married," was the response.

"Well, then, stand up in the wagon," said the 'Squire. "John, do you and Sally want to be married?"

Response—"We do."

"Do you make the request of your own free will?"

"We do," was the prompt reply.

"I then, in the name of God, pronounce you man and wife. Drive on!"

Down went the latch string, and the old 'Squire, grumbling about being waked up by youngster at midnight, slid back to his bed again.

THE LAST REVOLUTIONARY PENSIONER.*

A correspondent of the Troy Times has visited Samuel Downing, the last revolutionary pensioner, at his home in Edinburg, Saratoga Co., N. Y., and gives an interesting account of his interview:

"The house where, seventy-two years ago, Samuel Downing first made his home in this State, is a pleasant looking, roomy, two-story, frame house, having been enlarged or repaired during the past season. Entering, our companion informed Mrs. Downing, the wife of the old man's son, who resides with him, of our desire to see the veteran. He soon made his appearance and shook hands with us, answering all our inquiries, made in an ordinary tone of voice, as readily as though his faculties were scarcely impaired by the one hundred and five years that have passed over his head. He stoops considerably, and uses a cane some to walk about, but has not entirely lost the spring and elasticity of step that we find in men in the prime of life. His hair is white and rather thin, hanging down on his neck, and his skin has a healthy look, as though he might live for some years yet. He was suffering somewhat from an accident that took place last spring. He was bringing in an armful of wood, when, making a misstep, he fell with the wood on one arm, injuring it so bad that it was feared at one time that he had broken it, and much care has had to be taken since to keep him from exerting himself to do chores about. Until within a year or two he has been in the habit of walking over to Northville and back, a distance of several miles.

Mr. Downing was born near Exeter, N. H., November 30th, 1761, and is consequently 105 years of age. (A neighbor dates his birth back one year, viz., 1760, on the strength of his own family record, and a tradition that his father and Mr. Downing were born the same year. The account of his enlistment agrees with this tradition and makes him 106 years old.) At the age of 16 he enlisted in the army, and was sent with others to guard baggage trains to Springfield, Mass. From there he went to New Jersey, and thence returned to West Point. Thence he came to Saratoga, where he went through the campaign that resulted in the surrender of Burgoyne. After Burgoyne's surrender he went to Schenectady and Johnstown, passing his second winter in the army at the latter place. In the spring he went south to Peekskill, and was in an engagement at Pine Bridge. The third winter was spent at Newburg, and there he received his discharge when peace was declared. He returned to New Hampshire and married, and in the spring of 1804 moved, with his wife, to the place where he still lives. When the first pension law was passed, March 18, 1818, he made application and received a pension, his papers having been issued by and bearing the autograph of John C. Calhoun, as Secretary of War.

He is a little above the medium

*Mr. Downing died February 18th, 1867.

height, of rather stout build, not corpulent, and has generally enjoyed good health. On the 30th of November, 1861, when, according to his own account, he attained his hundredth birthday, his townsmen united in celebrating the event by a public meeting, procession and oration. They met at the house of one of the leading citizens in Beecher Hollow, some two miles from his residence, where he had spent the previous night, and forming a procession they went in sleighs, some thirty or forty in number, to a neighboring forest, where the old man cut down a hemlock tree, twenty-two inches in diameter. Then the company assembled around a stand and listened to an oration from Hon. George S. Bacheller. After the oration the procession was reformed, and moved to Mr. Downing's residence, where he cut down a black cherry tree measuring a foot in diameter, and then, digging a hole through the snow and frost, planted a small tree. Mr. Downing's wife died some years since, and of their thirteen children only two survive. The old man took a deep interest in the progress of the war for the Union, and sometimes expressed a wish that he was a little stronger, so that he could go and see another campaign. It is needless to say, after this, to which political party he belongs.

GEN. WASHINGTON'S LAST VOTE.

The Father of his country was conscientious in the discharge of every duty as a citizen, and never failed to vote. The last occasion of his doing so was in the spring of 1799, in the town of Alexandria. He died on the 11th of December following. The Court House of Fairfax county was then over the old market house, and immediately fronting Gadsby's tavern. The entrance into it was by a slight flight of crazy steps on the outside, and while the election was progressing—several thousand persons being assembled around the polls—Washington drove up in his old and well-known family carriage. The crowd spontaneously gave way, and made a lane for him to pass through as he approached the Court House steps. A gentleman who was standing at Gadsby's door saw eight or ten good looking men immediately spring forward and follow the General up the steps, in order to uphold and support him if necessary. According to the custom of that time, the five or six candidates were sitting on the bench, who rose in a body and bowed profoundly on the entrance of Washington. Very gracefully returning their salutation, the register of the polls said; "Well, General, how do you vote?" (It was then by *viva voce.*) He looked a moment at the candidates, and replied: "Gentlemen, I vote for measures, not for men;" aud having audibly pronounced his vote, he made another graceful bow, and retired. He was loudly cheered by the outward crowd on returning to his carriage.

GOVERNOR TIFFIN.

A magnificent monument made out of pure Italian marble, has just been erected in the cemetery at Chillicothe, in honor of Dr. Edward Tiffin, the first Governor of Ohio. The inscription is as follows: "Dr. Edward Tiffin, born in Carlisle, England, Jan. 19th, 1776; removed to the United States in 1784, and to the Northwestern Territory in 1790; Member of Territorial Legislature; President of the first Constitutional Convention of Ohio; first Governor of the State of Ohio, 1803 to 1807; U. S. Senate, 1808; Commissioner of the General Land Office, 1812; Surveyor General of the West, 1814 to 1829. Died as he had lived, an earnest Christian, in Chillicothe, Ohio, Aug. 9th, 1829."

THE WORD "MONEY."

Prof. Whitney, of Yale College, in the last New Englander, thus gives the history of our word "money:"

It is of French origin, brought into England by the Normans of William the Conqueror. The French language derives it, along with most of its other stores of expression, from the Latin, where it has the form *moneta*, and signifies primarily the *mint*, the place where money was coined, and then, by transference, the coin-stamp, mint-mark, and the coin stamped or minted. But why does *moneta* mean "mint" in Latin? For this reason: The Romans thought they had reason to be grateful to their goddess Juno for certain *monitions* which she had given them in crises of their history, and they accordingly built a temple to *Juno Moneta*, Juno the Monisher. In the said temple it chanced that, for reasons of state convenience, of which no one is now cognizant, the Roman machinery for stamping money was set up; it was made their place of coinage, their *mint*. Hence the name for mint, and coin, and money, in most of the tongues of modern Europe, they go back to a bit of popular superstition, and to the accidental location of a machine for stamping metal, in a community which was at the time one of the most insignificant in Europe.

ANCIENT RELIC.

On Friday evening last while some workmen were digging in a gravel bank at the upper end of the town of Milford, Clermont county, they struct a bony substance, which being uncovered revealed an ivory tusk about eight feet in length, and in diameter eleven inches at the large end and tapering to four or five at the other. During the night a rain fell and by morning a large part of the tusk fell to pieces or into the consistency of lime or chalk. From the appearance of the place where it laid, the imprint in the sand rendered it evident that it must have been originally about eleven feet in length. This, it is believed, is the largest specimen ever found in this vicinity, the remains of a race of animals long since extinct.

[Cin. Gazette Sept., 18, 1866.

AN OLD SOLDIER.

While only one revolutionary pensioner is still on the rolls, there are several old soldiers who still survive. One has been discovered in Noble county, Ohio, as already mentioned in our columns, and a correspondent of the New York Evening Post says that another is living on Prince Edward's Island, British America. His name is ALEXANDER STEWART. He also fought in the war of 1812. He is a native of Massachusetts, and is 109 years of age. Some thrity years since he removed to Prince Edward's Island. He lost his sight when about ninety years old, but recovered it when one hundred and three, and since that time has been able to read without glasses. His grandson, Lieutenant RICHARD J. CULLEN, of Company F, 9th New Hampshire Volunteers, a most exemplary and worthy officer and soldier, lost his right arm at the battle of Spottsylvania, May 12, 1864.

THE ORIGINAL EIGHT HOUR LAW.

The advocates of an eight hour law who think that they have discovered a new thing under the sun, will find their mistake by reading the subjoined extract from the ancient records of Springfield, all of which Mr. Folsom, the city clerk, is carefully copying to insure their preservation. Not only the time of labor, but the amount of wages is limited, a conjunction that would hardly be relished now-a-days. And

just imagine the present city council passing such an order as the following, which was adopted by the "plantation," December 24, 1641, five years after the first settlement of Springfield:

It is mutually by vote agreed for ye orderinge of wages for severall labourers viz: husbandmen, or ordinary laborers from ye first of November to ye first of March to worke at 18d p day, for ye other pt of ye yeare not to take above 20d p day: for carpenters for ye first 4 months 20d p day, for ye other pt of ye yeare 2s p day for mowers 2s p day, for taylors 10d p day wch severall laborers are to worke 8 howrs in ye winter pt, & 10 howrs in the somer pt, besides eatige and sleepige, taylors to worke 12 howrs: it is olso ordered for teames that they shall worke 4 cattell and one man at 6d p day from May till October to worke 8 howrs & ye other pt 6 howrs & if they carry by ye loade to work pportionably this order to continue for one wholley: followinge on till order be taken to ye contrary.

[Springfield (Mass) Republican.

ANTIQUITIES OF MAINE.

The Portland *Press* says that the first two-story house built in New Gloucester, Maine, was finished in 1765, by Rev. Sam. Foxcroft, first pastor of the Congregational Society of that town. The present resident and owner is a Foxcroft, and is named Samuel. The house is rather old-fashioned, but neat and comfortable. The first clock was also imported by the same reverend gentleman. It is still where he put it, and does its duty faithfully. The case is of heavy oak, veneered in front. The entire surface of the veneer is covered with carved work of the most delicate character, representing a great variety of objects—such as men, women and children, cats and dogs, lions and birds. It was made at London, by one Ben. Johnson, in 1524. The first minister of Bluehill, Hancock county, built himself a singular parsonage. It is of wood throughout, even to the hinges and latches of the doors. Within there is still preserved a wooden clock, made by him in his first year at Harvard University, with no other tools than a gimlet and jack-knife. It kept good time during its maker's life, and stopped at the very moment of his death. Another old building is the Shaker meeeting-house, at Alfred, which was built in 1781. It has never been re-shingled or re-clapboarded, but does not show its age in the least.

ANCIENT COFFINS OPENED.

The trustees of the old Stone Burial Ground in Branston, R. I., on the Pontiac road, a few miles southwest of Elmwood, have recently removed the remains of three of their ancestors to that place: Job Stone, his first wife, Hannah Barnes, and his second wife, Abigail Foster. The bones were in an entire state of preservation. The man had been buried 107 years; the first wife 154 years, and the second wife 106 years. Hannah Barnes, buried in 1712, was a little girl at the decease of Roger Williams, and died when between thirty and forty years of age, and yet the skeleton was as sound and perfect as if cleansed and kept in a case; the hair also, braided, wound up in a coil, was as sound and perfect as on the day on which she was laid down to sleep, although one hundred and fifty years of summer and winter have passed away, varied by Indian warfare, French conquest, Colonial struggle, Revolution, Independence, growth from less than two to thirty millions, a rebellion crushed, and the Goddess of Liberty enthroned throughout the land, since

that hair was braided and coiled in sorrowing kindness on the head where most of it still rests. Her descendants are and have been more than two thousand; more than half of that number are now living. These bodies were buried from five and a half to six feet deep, on a small ridge of land near a branch of the Pochasset river, the bottom of the grave some seven or eight feet above the level of the branch, is a bluish sandy clay.

[Providence Journal.

ANTIQUITIES AT WORTHINGTON, O.

Mr Wm. McK. Heath, of Worthington, has recently unlocked the secrets of one of the ancient mounds in that vicinity, and made some interesting discoveries.

The place referred to is so well known that more than mere reference is scarcely needed, so we proceed with the remark that there stands on the Western bank of the Olentangy, and near the village of Worthington, one of the antique tumuli of the period of the mound builders, which owing to the objections of Mr. Vining, (now over eighty years old,) the father of the present owner—had never been opened, though the family have had innumberable applications for permission to tap it.

It is about 480 feet in circumference, 160 feet in diameter, and 36 feet in hight, and is composed of rich alluvial soil, apparently skimmed from the surface of the adjacent fields. Feeling interested in remains found in similar mounds, Mr. Heath, with some difficulty, got the required permit, and ran a tunnel from eastward to center, and sank a shaft from the top, intersecting the tunnel, developing hundreds of fine beds (ashes, charcoal, &c.)—fragments of antique pottery and remains of two skeletons, much decayed of course, surrounded on all sides by multitudinous layers and coverings of wood, now decayed. The position of the skeletons was nearly east and west. Mr. Heath was prevented from pushing his explorations further on account of want of time.—*Columbus Journal.*

[From the Sandusky Register.]

EVENINGS WITH THE PIONEERS.

FIRST EVENING.

We have been handed a bound volume of the *Sandusky Clarion*, embracing a perfect file of this, the first newspaper printed on the Fire Lands, from the first number to the the close of the second volume. It was preserved by our late townsman, John Weeden, Esq., and we believe has been donated to the Fire Lands Historical Society by Mrs. Weeden, and will probably be presented to the Society at its next meeting. The volume was handed to us with a request that we peruse and make some notes of matters therein contained, for publication in

the *Register;* it being thought proper, as "the child is father to the man," that the *Register* should be allowed to say something of its parentage.

We have looked through these files of the *Clarion* with much pleasure, and by the aid of a few yet among us who link the present back to the past, will attempt, as best we may be able, during the coming evenings, to make brief mention of such things as attract our attention, while turning over the pages of this weekly record of the early days of our city.

It might be interesting, were it a part of our plan, to go back of the records before us and gather up the fragments which make up the history of our city prior to the publication of the *Clarion.* Suffice it to say that the first building was erected here in 1810, by John Garrison, a log structure of two rooms, built for a dwelling and a trading house, which stood for many years a little back from Water street, and to the east of the brick building known as the Townsend Block.

The first permanent settlement was made in 1816,. It may be some comfort to us in these times of high prices to notice that the cost of many articles was then as high as now, while money was extremely scarce. A poor article of flour sold at $10.00 per barrel; shirtings were, 50 to 62 cents per yard; satinetts $2.50 to $3.50 per yard; brown sugar 25 to 30 cents, and loaf sugar 40 to 50 cents per pound. Corn was worth $1.00 per bushel, and butter 25 cents per pound. Mr. Zalmon Wildman, the grandfather of Horatio Wildman, Esq., who yet resides here, laid out and christened the town of Portland, he at that time being proprietor of the grounds now embraced within the city limits. Soon after, the Hon. Isaac Mills, of New Haven, Conn., and the father of Mr. Henry Mills, for many years a citizen here, set up a claim to an undivided share in the Wildman tract. The result of the controversy was a compromise by which Mr. Wildman retained a three-fourths interest, Mr. Mills owning the remainder. After the settlement of this controversy, in the spring of 1818, Messrs. Wildman and Mills united in laying out the present plat for a town which they christened "Sandusky City," which name has since been abridged by dropping the appellation "City," and we have for some years been known by the name of Sandusky, simply. Some of the settlers here at that time were from the land of schools, and thus the first thing after preparing a place to live was to arrange for a school. A log cabin was dedicated to the purpose, and a Miss Stimpson taught the first school in Sandusky, sometime in the year 1818.

Up to 1817 the villagers all lived and the business men all did business in log structures. This year, Z. Wildman erected a frame structure for a "store house," on the ground now occupied by the East end of the "Reber Block," which was long known as the "Old White Store" and at one time the *Clarion* was published in the same, up stairs.

In the year 1821, Hon. Eleutheros Cooke entered upon an experiment which was of great importance to the future of the city. He set about the erection of a stone building, a thing which was generally esteemed a foolish move, as there seemed to be no stone in the vicinity, not even enough to build a house. The experiment proved a success, and the house was built and still stands, and is the one occupied by C. V. Olds & Co., as a book store, on the east side of Columbus Avenue. Since that time good building stone has come to be our boast and the substantial stone structures which tower up on every side of this little unpretending structure may be supposed to

carry on a conversation with this child of a pioneer experiment somewhat after the style of Burn's old and new "Brigs of Ayre."

This brings us down to the year 1822 and at our next setting we will open Uncle David Cambell's little weekly record of the early times of Sandusky and vicinity.

EVENING THE SECOND.

The years 1822, '23 and '24 inclusive, most of which time is covered by the files of the *Clarion* before us, was a period of much importance to the citizens of Sandusky City. The establishment of a paper, the first west of Cleveland; the opening of a stage route to Columbus; the regular arrivals and departures of "The new Lake Erie steamboat, Superior;" the failure to locate a canal uniting the Lake and the Ohio river, by the middle, or Sandusky and Scioto route, as proposed in the original plan, were all matters of great and absorbing interest to the citizens of the hopeful village of Sandusky City, which in 1822 numbered some forty houses and about three hundred inhabitants.

In the early settlement of the State, those seeking homes in the wilderness mostly lodged in the vicinity of points where it was supposed country seats would be located, or along the thoroughfare where they could keep a tavern, or at least be within hailing distance of those who came from the land of civilization. At the time of which we write, men of broader views began to look over the ground and said to themselves, and to each other, that here, all over this fertile country, which now is almost one vast wilderness, will soon gather a busy population. Large towns and cities will spring up and grow wealthy upon the business and exchange which the wants of this population will give. They will not be located along the old routes of travel, nor at country towns; but at points where the trade from the interior and commerce from the business world can be most conveniently joined. The equalizing influence of railroads was not then comprehended; indeed, they were not thought of in any of the calculations of this period.

During the years 1821–22, Sandusky City began to feel the influence of the advent of a goodly number of sagacious and enterprising business men, who believed this point to possess many natural advantages for a commercial city. Indeed some were so sanguine that they believed Sandusky City would be the great commercial city of Northern Ohio; and reasoning from all that could then be known, they judged correctly. As the world now goes, not many of these early settlers were men of capital in ready money; but not a few of them were men of business enterprise and sterling integrity. Some were rich in boundless acres and were rich or poor in fact, as these acres could be made valuable, or became unsaleable in the market. Of the influence of land speculations and the policy which grew out of them, upon the interests of Sandusky, we do not now propose to speak. Like the diseases incident to childhood, they are common to the early life of all towns, proving fatal to numbers and leaving a debilitating taint with many.

Among the arrivals of this period there came Mr. David Campbell, who, on the 15th of December, 1821, associated himself with Adonijah Champlin and issued proposals to publish in the month of March following, a weekly paper, to be called the *Ohio Illuminator*. Some friends of the enterprise took hold of the matter with spirit. A paper was greatly needed both by business men and the commuity. To have a

weekly paper from Sandusky City, was looked upon as an era by the pioneers. Subscription lists were circulated through Huron County; for we were all Hurons then, as the Eries had not yet gone out from the old wigwam. The proposition met with such favor that Mr. Campbell at once set about preparing to issue his *Illuminator* as promised in his proposals, and on the 10th of March had his type and press on the ground and was ready on his part to emit the light for which the people longed. March passed by, however, and no paper appeared. The subscription lists had been very tardy in coming in, and being a cautious man, and looking upon the enterprise as a venture of no small magnitude at that time, Mr. Campbell dared not commence the publication of his paper until the matter of support was placed upon a tangible basis. Always scrupulously punctual in the discharge of all his obligations so far as he was able, the delay caused Mr. Campbell no little annoyance and to add to his vexation, his partner, Mr. Champlin, had gone East, and had not returned. Thus the matter ran along into the month of April when, the people finding themselves still in darkness and longing for the *Illuminator*, and learning the cause of the delay, set themselves to the work of returning their lists, so that Mr. Campbell felt the publication was warranted, and on the 24th, of this month, 1822, appeared No. 1, of volume 1, of the *Sandusky Clarion*.

This number is before us and is perhaps the only copy that has survived the wreck of families and the crash of business for over forty years. We handle it as a thing almost sacred. It is a four page sheet, with four colums to the page, the whole affair measuring 24 by 38 inches. It is on rather coarse paper, or rather such as now would be deemed coarse, but fair paper for those times. The typograph and arrangement of the paper is rather commendable, although a printer would quickly detect many things which are not now in fashion, and a paper of the same style would now be called "countryfied," and "old fashioned." The first thing which would be noticed is the setting of advertisements and reading matter from the same font of type.

The *Clarion* was first issued from rooms in a small one story and a half building which stood upon the ground now occupied by Graham's drug store, corner of Water street and Columbus Avenue, though the old building did not stand on the corner as the present one does. It was used as a dwelling and printing office, Mr. Campbell residing in a part of the building. It was afterwards moved to the second story of the "Old White Store," upon the spot where Robertson & Son are now doing business. Mr. Campbell subsequently purchased the "Old Portland House," which stood upon the lot on Water street now occupied by the blue stone building known as the "Campbell Block." The printing office was on the second floor, and Mr. C. kept a book store in the east part of the first story, it being where the Express Office now is. The building was burned, together with the printing office and all the files and papers. A small black walnut writing desk, with a chest of drawers at one end, the desk used by Mr. Campbell, was saved, and was used some years by the local editor of the *Register*, but was burned by the fire that destroyed the *Register* establishment. After the destruction of the Portland House, the office was removed to the old stone building recently pulled down to give place for Mill's Block, corner of Columbus Avenue and Market street.

EVENING THE THIRD.

"A rose would smell as sweet were it
Ipecucuanha called."

Like the education and training of a child, the management of a paper, especially one that has its character to form, is attended with difficulties and perplexities, and the ushering into the world of a new paper, particularly in a small town in a new country, it is a matter not unattended with anxieties and trouble. Some of these are shadowed in Mr. Campbell's first editorial in the *Clarion*, entitled "To the Public," which is published over his own name. After stating that by the absence of his partner, Mr. Champlin, he was obliged to assume all the responsibility, he goes on to excuse himself from blame in the matter of not publishing the paper in March as promised in the prospectus.

The question has been asked as to what there is in a name. While the odor of a rose may not be changed by a change of name, the name of a paper was deemed a matter of some importance and elicted no little controversy. Mr. Campbell had settled down upon the *Ohio Illuminator* as a name that met his views of the case, and had promised in his proposals that the forthcoming sheet should thus be christened. His friends, however, interposed objections. Said they, "it looks as though you thought the people in darkness and you assume that you can enlighten them." This touched Mr. Campbell in a sensitive point of his character; for he never arrogated to himself any great store of wisdom above that used by other men. All these matters are treated of at some length as reasons why the paper appeared with a name changed from the one first proposed, and while he yielded to the wishes of his advisors, he evidently does not feel that the argument against his selection had been well taken and says, "I have, altho' in the absence of my partner, relinquished the original name, and substituted the *Sandusky Clarion*, which certainly will not *justify* similar imputations." He also adds: "In selecting the present name, the word 'Sandusky' is added more for the purpose of meeting the wishes of friends than to gratify my own fancy."

We think the change of name an improvement, and think Mr. Campbell evinced his usual good sense in making it; but the language quoted has the ring of inflexibility of purpose; he was evidently convinced against his will. After touching upon the usual topics treated of in "Bows editorial," as politics, religion, agriculture, commerce, &c., Mr. Campbell goes on to state that the people Eastward felt a deep interest in the prosperity of the country bordering on Lake Erie and promised that he would spare no pains in giving such information relative to the "Sandusky Country," as might be interesting to emigrants, and adds: "And it will be an agreeable task, if experience shall warrant it, to correct the unfavorable reports so prevalent in the western part of New York and Pennsylvania, relative to the unhealthfulness of the climate," and asks information relative to the matter. He closes by the following paragraph, which contains the key to his success in managing the "CLARION" for about a quarter of a century. He says: "I am more anxious to form a character for the "CLARION" by the manner of conducting it, than by gratuitous promises; these general remarks may suffice, until time has developed the opinions of the editors, and established the reputation of the paper."

As an editor Mr. Campbell had always before him three paramount objects. He desired always to pro-

mote that which he believed for the public good. He was always vigilant to establish for his paper a reputation for candor, veracity and a strait forwardness of purpose; indeed, so tenacious was he of the latter that he would almost sacrifice his love of the former rather than be open to the charge vacillation. Friends could, by judicious management, change his course of action; they did so often, but they always left the field of combat feeling that the *man* was unchanged in his opinions. Lastly he always had a passion for that class of "items" known as accidents. Items that involved the loss of life or limb, no matter where from, were at a premium with the "CLARION." Thus in this first number we find upon the first page no less than two lengthy accounts of two attempted assassinations, taken from the Ogdensburg *Gazette*, and this too, when upon the inside we find him furnished with two items which were strictly local and sufficiently horrid. The first announces the burning of the residence of Mr. George Sheffield Esq., of Lyme, by which a daughter of five years and an orphan lad of eleven years were burned to death.

Large quantities of clothing, provisions and $250 in bank notes were also consumed. Messrs. Gurdon Williams and Hiram Baker suffered by the fire. Just below he relates "Another Melancholy Event," and truly it was such. A Mr. Artemadoros Tuller was removing from the Peninsula to the Plaster Bed by boat and the boom jibed and knocked overboard a little daughter of five years, and as Mr. T. could not swim, the parents stood near and saw the little one perish without being able to afford relief. These accidents were talked over far and wide at the time, and are remembered by some yet among us.

One other trait of Mr. Campbell's character is worthy of mention, and equally worthy of imitation. He was emphatically a modest man and was thus, in the most commendable sense of the term. When we get before us his high moral tone of character; his love of candor and veracity; his inflexibility of purpose and his modesty, we have Mr. Campbell as he was known among us for a period of some forty years, and in a combination of these traits of character, sometimes one controlling and sometimes another, we find a key to his whole history. They are all stamped markedly upon this first number of the *Clarion*—the bantling of his better as well as of his elder years. In a series of little items which follow his "To the Public," each marked by three stars in a triangle; instead of a ☞ as now, in which he asks an exchange with his brothers of the quill, asks Masters of vessels to subscribe and to furnish items of interest to the public, and gives business men an invitation to advertise, are all of them models of modesty. The latter we beg leave to transfer as a specimen, and as it introduces the topic of our next evening's chat. It reads as follows:

"*** It is expected that the circulation of the Clarion will be sufficiently extensive to make it a desirable object for phyiscians, lawyers, merchants, mechanics, landholders and innkeepers, to make it a medium for their advertisements."

Dignified and staid, pointed, brief and modest, it is a model invitation. How well it was responded to, we will soon have occasion to see.

EVENING THE FOURTH.

Advertisements are very important, and withal a very curious kind of literature. They are important, since they cheapen very greatly the subscription price of the newspaper, give life to business, and are an in-

dex to the enterprise and thrift of the community in which they are furnished. They are curious, because once being dead, they yet live again. A business man dashes off a few lines giving a little information to his customers and it goes into the paper until the figures at the bottom indicate the expiration of the time, or until "tf" (till forbid) steps into the office and cries enough, when the paragraph drops out of the paper, and in printer's phrase, is "dead." The types go into the cases to be called out anon to announce some fresher piece of information, and no more is thought of the matter until long years after, some lingering remnant of other days draws from its dusty retreat the musty, brown file, when he is rejuvenated and has a long train of memories invigorated by the latent life which he finds in the old advertisements—life, warmed into fresh vigor by the thickening dust of years. Some men spend a lifetime writing volumes with a hope of being read posthumously. Not unfrequently their books are food for the moth only, while the bustling man of business who dashes off a few hasty lines to serve a temporary purpose, finds interested readers long years after he has gone to the grave.

Little did Captain J. W. Ransom, master of the fast sailing schooner "*Huron of Sandusky*," think when he handed into the old Clarion office, on the 22d of April, 1822, his advertisement stating that he would sail from Ssndusky on Saturday, the 27th inst., for Buffalo, and on his return would sail immediately for Mackinaw, Green Bay, &c., think that his article would, within a few years of half a century after, and nearly a quarter of a century after his melancholy death, find interested readers and be made the subject of a paragraph in the Daily *Register*. But thus it is.

15

Before making special mention of those who were business men in Sandusky City at the time of which we write, we would premise that we do not propose to follow any particular order, but shall make brief mention of each, as we can get such information as may be deemed interesting. Meantime we would solicit information from those who may be possessed of facts and incidents relating to the early settlement of our city. The years are stealing by, our pioneers are falling by the way, and it is well to gather up of our local history such sherds as can be obtained only from the memory of those who still remain among us. To do this, and to excite a general interest in this direction, chiefly influence us to spend these "Evenings with the Pioneers."

In the early days, a tavern was a thing of first importance; hence, we will first introduce, as one of the early business men of our city, Mr. C. W. Marsh, the first man who kept a public house here. We are unable thus far to get anything of his early history, but learn that he built the structure which yet stands on the corner of Water and Wayne streets, lately known as "Raymond's Hotel." In this building he for many years kept the "Steamboat Hotel." A goodly number of our pioneers were at sometime, and some of them for a length of time, guests of "mine host" of the "Steamboat Hotel," and some are yet living who have a vivid recollection of the days when board and lodging in what has since been known as the "Old Verandah" was thought quite stylish. We doubt not some of them might recall incidents therewith connected, worthy of mention.

Stage coaches were another important institution of the country about the era of which we write, and as they were somewhat allied to the tavern interest, we are not

surprised to find that Mr, Marsh was first proprietor of a line of stages from this point to Delaware. In his issue of May 29, 1822 Mr. Campbell says; "He has been requested to announce that arrangements had been made to run a line of stages to Delaware in about two weeks." We suppose these arrangements were made by Mr. Marsh, and that the stage started; but Mr. M. seems not to have invested much in printer's ink, and no record of the running of the line was found for that time. He, however, figures in the same number of the Clarion as the man who had a few barrels of "racked cider" for sale on commission, low for cash or whisky.

On the 30th of July, however, we are informed in an advertisement which appears for months, that Cyrus W. Marsh and Constant Barney were running a line of United States mail stages from Portland, Sandusky Bay, to Delaware via Mansfield, which left Portland at 8 A. M., Monday, arriving at Mansfield at 4 P. M., Tuesday, and at Delaware at 10 A. M. Thursday, and returning arrived at Portland 11 A. M. Sunday. They claim it as an "infant establishment" fostered by "infant patronage," but infants must have been weighty in those days, as they apologize that they had consulted the "strength of their carriages" rather than their "elegance or beauty."

Mr. Marsh failed in business and removed to Canada, and is probably not living.

A Mr. A. Brown figures in the first number of the Clarion as a man who was ready to make restitution to some parties, if they would call, who were disatisfied with the division of some money stolen from his store.

Andrew Brown was an Irishman, a dealer in Irish linen and did business in a room opposite where Pierce & Woolsey's spoke factory now stands. He was not long here and would have been entirely forgotten but for this "notice" which he left of his smartness.

Bread was a matter of prime importance to the early denizens of the village, and a Mr. Darius C. Henderson was the first man to recognise this want in a public way. In the second number of the Clarion he "respectfully informs the public that he has commenced the baking business two doors west of C. W. Marsh's tavern," &c., &c., all of which means simply that he had converted John Garrison's old log trading house into a bakery. He had also secured the services of an experienced workman, &c., by the name of John G. Greenleaf, who is well remembered by the pioneers as an oddity, who on July 16th, 1822, took the place of his master and comes out in a smart sort of an advertisement to "The Eating Universe" in which he announces himself as a Green Leaf which thirty years ago was torn from its mother stem" &c., so that, if he has not yet mouldered, he has more than lived his three score and ten yeaas and probably is in the "sear and yellow." He left Sandusky and his after history is unknown to us.

EVENING THE FIFTH.

Mr. William Townsend was the first and only merchant that patronized Mr. Campbell's first number of the "CLARION" by advertising. He appeared in a quarter of a column, as a general merchant, offering dry goods, groceries, crockery, books, stationery, salt, &c., &c., and in addition offers to do a general commission business.

Mr. Townsend came from New Haven, Conn., and located at a very early day as one of the first merchants here. His place of business was in a small building on Water street, nearly opposite the Colton House, and had for many years

formed a part of the old patched-up structure known as the passenger depot of the S. D. & C. Railroad, until it was torn down and removed a few weeks since. He built a small dock opposite his store, which now forms a part of the dock upon which stands the ample freight depot of the S. D. & C. Railroad. The docks of this period were very rude, and compared with those we now use, very cheap affairs, and we believe numbered three only. They were built by sinking cribs of logs at a distance of a few feet, uniting them with stringers, and covering the whole with plank. They were very insecure structures, and were often carried away by the ice and the high waters. Of these, there were three; the one mentioned above, one where Mr. Dill now is doing business, and one where Messrs. Marsh now have their mill for grinding plaster.

Mr. Townsend resided in a frame house, a part of which yet stands on Lawrence street, a little to the south of the Colton House, and now, in its old days, bears little marks of having belonged with the more aristocratic dwellings of its prime.

Mr. Townsend was for many years an active and influential business man in Sandusky, and was withal a very successful one as well. At the time the managers of the S. D & C. railroad were making extensive improvements in this city, Mr. T. sold his place of business and the grounds, to the company and retired from active business. Somewhere about 1844 or '45 he erected the commodious and substantial stone residence on West Washington street, now owned and occupied by his son-in-law, Pitt Cooke, Esq. Here the family resided when the terrible epidemic of 1849 swept through our city with such fatality, and by it three of this family, Mr. Townsend, Mrs. Townsend, his wife, and one daughter, were carried away. Their remains were interred in Oakland Cemetery, and their resting place is marked by one of the most costly monuments seen in the grounds.

The "Townsend House," which has stood for many years, a reminder to the pioneer of Mr. Townsend's business days, and so long and largely known as the place where Col. Colt made the traveler at home, was swept away by fire last year and a saddening heap of ruins at the corner of Market and Decatur streets, marks the place where it stood. The heirs of Mr. Townsend still hold the title to much valuable real estate in and about the city.

On April 23d, 1822, a Mr. Oliver W. Slocum furnished the "CLARION" with a quarter-column advertisement, headed with a huge anvil, mounted by a sledge. Mr. Slocum carried on the business of a blacksmith at Monroe at that time, the place we believe now known as Monroeville. As he wished "to court the patronage of his *old* customers," he probably had been sometime a smith at monroe. We know nothing of him save what appears in the "CLARION." We infer that his advertisement gave him a hope of thrift; for in the second number of the paper there appears the following happy bit of information:—

NUPTIAL.

MARRIED—By Moses Sowers, Esq., Mr. Oliver W. Slocum of Monroe, to Miss Percy Felton, of Sherman.

How this little notice affected his interests we do not know; but some months later he advertises for an apprentice to the smithing business; and in a few months he appears again offering a reward of "one cent" for a runaway apprentice, all of which are suggestive topics for speculative thought.

EVENING THE SIXTH.

Among the few who appear in the first number of the "CLARION," we notice the name of George Anderson, the first physician who settled in Sandusky. The physician of the olden time, if a man worthy of his calling, was one who had a larger hold upon the confidence and affection of the pioneer than any other one. He, through much hardship and privation was the one who visited them in time of sickness and distress, and upon him they relied as their last earthly helper. No words can portray the feelings with which the pioneer physician was regarded by the people of the olden time. The influence of charlatanism has wrought a great change in the relation which the physician sustains toward the people in the last forty years.

Dr. George Anderson was born February 8th, 1792, in Otsego County, State of New York, on the farm of his father, which is now the site of Cooperstown. He received his medical education at the University of Pennsylvania, under the instructions of Dr. Rush, and afterwards attended the lectures of Dr. White of Cherry Valley, New York. He removed to the village of Venice, in this County in the year 1817, before the settlement of this town. In 1818 he came to this town, then having but about half a dozen families, and boarded in the first frame dwelling built here, then owned and occupied by the father of W. B. Smith, Sen. Being the only physician here, his practice extended over a large portion of the country about, taking in the territory now covered by a large part of Erie and Ottawa counties. All visitations were then made on horseback, through woods and swamps, there being very few roads laid out. Dr. Anderson was always very active in all matters of public interest, and in the politics of the day. He was among the first movers in the matter of getting the charter for the Mad River and Lake Erie Railroad Company, and was one of the first Directors of that Company. Also, one of the first stockholders and directors of the Sandusky and Columbus Turnpike Company, which was one of the first stage and mail routes into Central Ohio from the Lake. He was a Free Mason and Master of Science Lodge in 1823. He was a strong Andrew Jackson man, and one of the seven voters at this town at the election of the old General for the first term. It is proper here to notice that from letters left by Dr. Anderson, which are before us, we learn that he and General Lewis Cass were personal friends.

It will be remembered that in August, 1831, President Jackson made a reconstruction of his Cabinet and the war portfolio was placed in the hands of General Cass. About this time President Jackson saw looming up a difficulty with the Indians of no mean magnitude. General Cass had had much to do with Indians from a very early day. In 1828 he wrote two lengthy articles in the *North American Review*, which showed an intimate knowledge of their affairs and attracted much attention. The year following he delivered a learned and lengthy address before the Historical Society of Michigan upon the same subject, all of which served to bring him into notice as the man for the times, and the one best qualified to manage the War Department at that time. The red men of the South had proved troublesome to the slave interests, and President Jackson, seconded by General Cass, had warmly espoused the policy of their removal west of the Mississippi. Some of the Southern States had set up a claim to them, based upon the doctrine of States rights.

In the case of the Cherokees, the Supreme Court had decided that Georgia had no such right, but that the disposal of the Indians belonged to the General Government. Upon this point General Cass ran a muck of the decisions of the Court, and sided with Georgia while she hanged and imprisioned in defiance of legal decisions. Notwithstanding all this, we are glad to believe the old General has grown somewhat wiser by age and does not now embrace the bloody skeleton of States rights as it stands in armed defiance of the General Government to-day.

We have before us an autographic letter from General Cass, written to Dr. Anderson, dated Detroit, July 28th, 1831, only a few days before his appointment, in which he says: "Agreeably to your kind offer, I would thank you to secure two seats for me in the Mount Vernon stage for Sunday morning, the 31st," and he adds that in case the boat should be late he would be glad to have the stage wait a little while, and in case it started before the boat reached Sandusky, he desired a team and light wagon to be in readiness to overtake the stage and closes by saying: "I suppose the driver would at least proceed slowly for a while." The old General was probably on his way to Washington at this time, and was doubtless little aware of the stormy times which were in the immediate future. The nest egg of the Florida war was then laid, and two years of incubation developed this expensive bantling of the South. The Indians were removed, however; but are not yet out of the way.

Another letter from the General, dated at Detroit, August 13th, 1832, informs the Doctor that some favor which he had asked for a friend had received his recommend and would be granted unless the place had already been filled. This is supposed to relate to the appointment of Erastus Cooke, Esq., a brother-in-law of the Doctor's and a brother of the late Hon. E. Cooke, as Post Master at Sandusky. Mr. Cooke was Post Master here during Jackson's second presidential term and was one of the seven who voted for him at his first election. He died here in July, 1849, of cholera, and his widow, a son, James W. Cooke, and a daughter, Mrs. Wm. H. Mills, 2d, are living; the former resides in Philadelphia, with Jay Cooke, Esq., the latter resides in this city.

Doctor Anderson died of the cholera, in August, 1834, being taken with that dreadful disease while visiting a cholera patient in the morning, and died the same evening. His widow is still living, and resides with Doctor E. S. Lane, of this city, whose wife is an only daughter. Mr. Geo. J. Anderson, our well-known Insurance Agent, is an only son.

George Anderson's papers now before us, prompt us to say a word of a man who did not belong to Sandusky in an early day, but was sufficiently known in this vicinity to make a notice of interest. We therefore introduce William H. Hunter, Esq., a lawyer who came from Frankfort, Kentucky, some where about the year 1825, and settled in Norwalk. He comes to our notice in a letter probably written in Norwalk in the fall of 1827, though it bears no date. It was written to Dr. Anderson in the interest of General Jackson's election, urging the appointment of delegates from Sandusky to a meeting to be held at Columbus, and speaks hopefully of the General's prospects. Dr. Anderson attended that meeting as delegate from Jackson's friends then here.

Dr. Anderson at one time carried on a drug and book store here, and we have before us a long catalogue

of books, which is curious only as it indicates the literary taste of the pioneers and it calls to mind some half forgotten books of the olden time. "Morse's Geography" was then in use, and we have a faint recollection of many a hard lesson dug out of that same, and remember how we envied the class which had procured "Woodbridge," the pictures were new and the lessons so much easier. "The Columbian Reader," "Cook's Voyages," Plutarch's Lives," "Pilgrim's Progress," "Chalmer's Discourses," "Cowper's Task," "Family Physician," "Cooper's Surgery," "Flint's Surveying," &c., &c., were then in the market.

Last, but not least, among the papers before us, we find David Campbell's and D. & J. H. Campbell' bills rendered against the estate of George Anderson, running from 1822 to 1835 and attested before John Beatty "Mayor of the town," August 3, 1835, and receipted by account rendered, by David Campbell, January 21, 1836. It covers one entire sheet of fools-cap, and is of interest as showing the price of various things connected with the printing business. Old exchanges were then worth 19 cents per quire. On October 8th was charged $4;00 for 2000 tickets for October election. On the 27th of the same month we find $2,00 charged for 1500 Jackson tickets (pres. elec.) April 24th, 1822, we find $1,00 charged for a card, which relates to the return of some clothing and a watch which some one "borrowed" from the Dr.'s house on the night of the 16th, and is the identical advertisement in the first issue of the Clarion which led us to track up the Dr. as one of the pioneers.

Mr. Hunter subsequently came to this city to reside. He is remembered by many of our citizens as an active politician, a good-looking, ambitious man, who became somewhat embittered toward the world through disappointment, and met a rather mysterious end. He was on the Peninsula sometime in the Spring of 1842, with a sporting party. He being missed from the party a great search was instituted, many of our citizens taking a part. At sometime after, he was found in an old house belonging to Mr. Kelley, buried in a mow of hay. The manner of his death was a matter of much speculation at the time. Some believed that he had been murdered, others that he had died of a fit or had been frozen; while others thought he had purposely taken the death leap to escape from a world which he no longer seemed to enjoy. He was buried in the old burial ground in this city, and his grave is probably unmarked. We are sure that some one in the city, has a portrait of him by Powers, which was in the artists hands at the time of his death, and as he had no friends here, has never been claimed.

TO THE FRIENDS OF THE PIONEER.

The success of the Fire Lands Historical Society in gathering and preserving the materials for a full history of the settlement of this vicinity, is due in a great measure to the interest taken in its work, not only by the pioneers, but by the great mass of the citizens of the Fire Lands. We invite the continued co-operation of all who can furish a fact, a record, a memento of the past, or become a member. Each and all are welcome.

This volume, closing ten years of industrious research and pleasant labor, is a worthy companion of the seven preceding. Gathering material as we do from old and young, lettered and unlettered, it is not surprising that errors of date, name, and fact, occasionally occur. We desire all detecting such, to give early information to the Secretary or the Committee.

The only back numbers which can be supplied are No.'s 1, 2, 3, of vol. 2; vol.'s 4, 5 and 7. The demands for back numbers to complete sets, is constantly increasing, and we hope the time is not far distant, when the Society will feel justified in revising and republishing the entire series.

PUBLISHING COMMITTEE.

Norwalk, June 12th, 1867,

CONSTITUTION OF THE FIRE LANDS HISTORICAL SOCIETY.

Art. 1. This Society shall be called "The Fire Lands Historical Society."

Art. 2. Its objects are to collect and preserve in proper form the facts constituting the full history of the "Fire Lands;" also to obtain and preserve an authentic and general statement of their resources and productions of all kinds.

Art. 3. The officers of this Society shall consist of a President, five Vice Presidents, a Treasurer, one Recording and two Corresponding Secretaries, a Biographer, a Keeper of Cabinet, and five Directors.

Art. 4. The officers hereof shall be elected annually, and shall perform the duties usually pertaining to their respective offices.

Art. 5. The office and records of the Society shall be kept at Norwalk. The annual meeting for the election of officers shall also be held at Norwalk, on the second Wednesday of June, at 10 o'clock A. M.

Art. 6. Any person may become a member of this Society by signing, or having his name affixed to the Constitution and paying into the Treasury the sum of twenty-five cents; and any person also may be received by vote of the Society as an honorary member.

Art. 7. This Constitution may be altered or amended at any annual meeting hereafter, by a vote of two-thirds of the members present.

CONTENTS OF VOL. VIII.

	Page.
Address, G. T. Stewart	29
Cahoon, Celebration	77
Constitution of the Fire Lands Historical Society	119
Dillingham, John, Life of	70
Evenings with the Pioneers	107 to 118
Flemmond, John B.	21
Gladwyn, Major, and the Indian Girl	9
Hoyt's Survey	75
Lane, Judge Ebenezer, Sketch of	49
Lessons of the War	29
Ludlow's Field Notes	16
MISCELLANEOUS ARTICLES—	
Haying and Sparking on Sunday in 1812	94
Mrs. Polly Haskins, the oldest Person in Ohio	95
An Incident of Hull's Surrender	96
Thanksgiving	96
Fifty Years Ago	98
Forty Years Ago	99
New England in the West	100
A Good and Honest Judge	101
Land Marks Destroyed	102
Married in a Wagon	102
The Last Revolutionary Pensioner	103
Gen. Washington's Last Vote	104
Governor Tiffin	104
The Word Money	105
Ancient Relic	105
An Old Soldier	105
The Original Eight Hour Law	105
Antiquities of Maine	106
Ancient Coffins Opened	106
Antiquities at Worthington, O.	107
Merry Hosmer	28
Members of Fire Lands Historical Society	74
Meetings—Annual at Norwalk	1
" Quarterly at Greenfield.	3
" " " Centerton.	5
" " " Townsend.	7
OBITUARY NOTICES—	
Platt Benedict	84
Rouse Bly	85
Joab Squires	87
Benjamin Benson	88
Archibald Easter	88
Robert Crow	88
Mrs. Nancy Ransom	88
Pierce, Mrs. Polly, Life of	23
Personal Reminiscences—E. Osborn	26
Remarks at Townsend Meeting	81
Reserve, South Boundary of	13
Reminiscences, Personal	91
Smith, Colonel James	40
Scattered Sheaves No. 5	61
" " " 6	65
Then and Now, and Steps Between.	42
Townsend, Mrs. Kneeland	61
To the Friends of the Pioneer	119
Waggoner Gathering, The	89

ERRATA.

VOLUME 5. Page 13, 2d col., 7th line from bottom, for "connect" read "convict."
" 6. Page 2, for "Seth Keeler" read "Luke Keeler."
" 7. In "Autobiography of Francis Graham" for "Jannahill" read "Tannehill;" for Gill, Thompson & Co." read "Sill Thompson & Co.; for "Bouley" read "Bodley."

THE FIRE LANDS PIONEER.

VOLUME IX.—JUNE, 1868.

FIRE LANDS HISTORICAL SOCIETY.

ANNUAL MEETING.

MORNING SESSION.

The annual meeting of the Fireland's Historical Society, for the year 1867, was held in Whittlesey Hall, at Norwalk, on Friday, June 21st, commencing at half past ten o'clock A. M.

The meeting was called to order by Vice President Geo. H. Woodruff, Esq., and the Secretary being necessarily absent, W. C. Allen was called upon to fill his place pro tem. The Rev. A. R. Palmer, pastor of the M. E. Church, then offered a very appropriate and touching prayer.

The minutes of the preceding meeting were then read and approved; after which, the roll of Township Committees was called, but there were no reports except from Milan.

The report of C. A. Preston, Esq., Treasurer of the Society, for the current year, was then read, and the total receipts including the balance on hand at the close of the preceding year, were $167 07; the total amount paid out during the year, was $121 50; leaving a balance on hand of $45 57.

On motion of F. D. Parish, the report was accepted and approved.

The Directors and Publishing Committee then presented their report for the current year, which is as follows:

"One thousand copies of Vol. 7 of the Pioneer for 1866, were published, at a total expense of $376 46; the receipts from sales were $344 75; from the Publication Fund $100; total receipts, 444 75—leaving a balance on hand to new account, $68 29, but showing an excess of expenses over actual sales, of $31 71.

"As we are now in the midst of distributing Vol. 8, it is too early to report in full with regard to it. The number of subscribers now reported is 596. It is probable that the Townships not yet reported will increase the number to 700, and miscellaneous sales add enough to make the edition pay for itself.

"The question of re-publishing the Pioneer has been agitated somewhat, but no effective steps taken in that direction on account of the present high cost of everything in that line. From investigations made, it appears that it would cost subscribers about $4 a set, if the work should be re-printed and nicely bound, and would require about 600 copies to be taken to secure against loss. We refer to the matter at this

time, that the Society may have the question fully before them. There is no doubt a general wish for republication, but your Committe are not prepared to say that now is the time, but would refer the matter to the Society.

"It is generally known that since the last annual meeting of the Society, the venerable and highly esteemed President, Platt Benedict, Esq., has been removed to a higher sphere. He has been the President of the Society from the first organization in 1857, and has been one of the most diligent and efficient laborers in our historical enterprise; indeed, it may well be said that he has done more to sustain and promote the interests of the Society, than any other of the numerous and faithful members thereof. But his work is done, and well done, and he has entered into his final rest."

The report of the Biographer of the deaths of Pioneers, was then presented, the substance of which has been already printed in the Pioneer for the current year. F. D. Parish, of Sandusky, mentioned the name of Charles Converse, late of that place, in addition to those already named by the Biographer.

On motion of B. Summers, Esq., a suggestion of D. H. Pease, Esq.—that the Township Historical Committees forward a report of the deaths of all Pioneers to the Biographer—was adopted, and the Committees were requested to comply with the same.

On motion of D. H. Pease, the Chairman appointed a Committee of three persons to prepare a list of names to fill the various offices for the coming year. The following named persons were appointed said Committee, viz: D. H. Pease, F. D. Parish and Wm. H. Crane; and the Committee immediately retired to prepare the list.

The Constitution of the Society was then read, and the names of fifteen new members were added to the same.

The Committee to present names of officers for the Society, then reported the following list, to-wit:

President—Judge Z. Phillips, of Berlin.
Vice President, 1st—Elijah Bemiss, Groton.
" " 2d—Geo. H. Woodruff, Peru.
" " 3d—John H. Niles, Norwich.
" " 4th—Martin Kellogg, Bronson.
" " 5th—Benj. Summers, Vermillion.
Recording Secretary—C. P. Wickham. Norwalk.
Corresponding Secy—F. D. Parish, Sandusky.
" " "—P. N. Schuyler, Norwalk.
Treasurer—C. A. Preston Norwalk.
Biographer—Judge S. C. Parker, Greenfield.
Keeper of Cabinet—F. A. Wildman, Norwalk.
Directors—Z. Phillips, F. D. Parish, G. T. Stewart, C. P. Wickham and E. Bemiss.

On motion of P. N. Schuyler, Esq., the report of the Committee was adopted, and by a unanimous vote, the persons recommended by the Committee were declared elected to the several offices as named in said report.

Vice President Woodruff then conducted the new President to the Chair, who, upon assuming the duties thereof, delivered a very appropriate salutatory address.

The Biographer then presented to the Society, as a gift from General Garfield, now a member of Congress, one copy of History and Resources of Dakota, Montana and Idaho, with a map of the Northwest, and ten copies of "Roll of Honor," containing the names of officers and soldiers who were killed or died while in the service of the United States, during the war for the suppression of the Rebellion, or who had died while in southern

prisons, during the same period, and the place where each had been buried.

On motion, a vote of thanks of the Society was given to General Garceld for the acceptable gift.

Adjourned till half past 1 P. M.

AFTERNOON SESSION.

The Society again met at the hour adjourned to, and opened the session by singing "Old Northfield."

The presentation of Relics being next in order, the following were exhibited, viz:

By Seth Jennings, of Milan: A Sampler—being an elaborately wrought sample of silk cover, about half a yard square—worked by Margaret Minuse, when she was only ten years of age. She was the mother of Mrs. Seth Jennings, of Milan, and the wife ot Wm. Kline, of the same place. They came to Milan from the city of New York, with a family of eight children, in June, 1819, and settled at what was then called Camp Avery. The Sampler contains figures of persons, houses, trees, &c. Also, some ancient documents sent to Mrs. Jennings, by Mrs. Lucy Pier, the daughter of Ebenezer Merry, deceased, (formerly of Milan,) from Texas, where she has resided for many years past. They are presented to the Society by Mrs. Pier. The first is a License to a manufacturer of Leather, issued to Falley & Nichols, of Huron County, Ohio, on the 1st day of January, 1816, at Newburgh, Ohio, and signed by Erastus Miles, Collector of Revenue for the 9th Collection District of Ohio The second is a commission given to Moses Nichols, as a Justice of the Peace for the Township of Lower Sandusky, County of Huron and State of Ohio, dated at Chillicothe, O., December, 1815, and signed by Thomas Armstrong, Governor.

By D. H. Pease, of Norwalk, contributed by his sister, Mrs. Kryder, of Michigan, an old account book, used by his father, Erastus Pease, in 1814, at Somers, Connecticut, from which Mr. Pease read items of accouht with Charles Kellogg, an early settler of Berlin, and now present at this meeting.

By B. Summers, of Vermillion: 1st. An Ensign's commission from Thomas Fitch, Captain-General and Governor of the colony of Connecticut, to Benjamin Summers, grandfather of exhibitor, dated at Norwalk, Conn., March 24, A. D. 1760. 2d. A Captain's commission, from Jonathan Trumbull, Governor of the State of Connecticut, for the Eastern Company of Alarm List, in the town of Newtown, given to said Benjamin Summers, dated Hartford, February 1, 1779. 3d. A Sergeant's Warrant, from David Wooster, Colonel of the 3d Regiment of the colony of Connecticut, to Mark Summers, grand-uncle to the exhibitor, dated at Lake Ontario, Oct. 4, 1760, and containing the autographs of each. Said Colonel Wooster was killed while opposing the British troops that burned Danbury, Fairfield, &c., being then a Patriot General, thus giving his life to prevent the acts that gave name to this Society. Captain Benjamin was out at the same time with his Company—saith tradition.

The old Boone Family Bible was again exhibited by Mrs. Mary Tillinghast, of Townsend, formerly owned by her great-grand-father in 1721, or 146 years ago. Its age is unknown, as no date can be found of the time it was printed.

By Mrs. Frank F. Jennings, of Townsend, a small wrought silk quilt, about one and a half yards square, and made by her great-grand-mother's sister, Mrs. Ogden, in New Jersey, in 1751.

Mr. F. D. Reed again exhibited the stuffed skin of an enormous Wild Cat, which was killed in Ottawa County, in this State, some time in February, 1867.

By P. N. Schuyler, of Norwalk: A copy of the Acts and Laws of His Majesty's English Colony of Connecticut, in New England, in America, printed at New London, Conn, in 1750. This book contains the famous Blue Laws of Connecticut, and was purchased by Robert Pease, (great-grand-father of D. H. Pease) in 1759, and is also presented by Mrs. Kryder, the same person mentioned above- The latter part of the book contains an account of some advances made to his children by the aforesaid Robert Pease, out of his estate. Mr. Schuyler entertained the audience some little time reading selections of some of its laws, and remarking thereon.

The audience then joined in singing another old-fashioned hymn—"New Jerusalem."

The Secretary read an article contributed by Seth Jennings, Esq., of Milan, being a short biographical sketch of Mrs. Charlotte Merry, relict of Ebenezer Merry, and who is still living at the age of 86 years. The sketch was all the more interesting from the fact that Mrs. Merry was then present in the meeting, in the enjoyment of good health, and surrounded by children, grand-children and great-grand children. The article referred to is furnished for publication in the Pioneer.

Judge W. V. Way, of Perrysburg, Ohio, a delegate from the Maumee Valley Pioneer Association, being present, was then called upon, and responded in a few remarks of congratulation to this kindred Society, and also some accounts of early pioneer llfe in the Maumee Valley, and closed by inviting a delegation from this Society to meet them at their next annual meeting in Perrysburg, to be held June 26, 1867. The remarks were responded to by F. D. Parish, who moved that three delegates be appointed by this Society, to accept and carry out the above invitation. The Chair appointed F. D. Parish, S. C. Parker and E. Bemiss.

The Biographer then noticed a work just out of press written by Col. Charles Whittlesey, called "Early History of Cleveland." and recommended it as an extensive and reliable work on the early history of northern Ohio.

On motion, it was resolved to hold the first quarterly meeting of the current year, at Fitchville, in this County, on the second Wednesday of September next, and J. C. Curtiss, R. S. Miles, Samuel Palmer, David Wood and David Palmer, were named as a Committee of Arrangements for the occasion.

On motion a vote of thanks was extended to the citizens of Norwalk for their hospitality on this occasion, and a like compliment to those who had assisted in leading the singing.

The audience then joined in singing the Doxology—"Praise God from all blessings flow," &c., after which a benediction was pronounced by the Rev. S. C. Parker, and the Society adjourned to meet as aforesaid.

Z. PHILLIPS, President.
W. C. Allen, Sec'y pro tem.

QUARTERLY MEETING.

AT FITCHVILLE.

MORNING SESSION.

The first Quarterly Meeting of the Firelands Historical Society, for the current year, was held at Fitchville, in the Congregational Church, on

Wednesday, the 11th day of September, 1867, at 10 o'clock A. M., President Z. Phillips presiding, assisted by Vice Presidents E. Bemiss and S. C. Parker.

The meeting was opened by singing by the choir, after which the 90th Psalm was read by Vice President Bemiss, and prayer was offered by the Rev. H. S. Bennett, of Wakeman.

The choir then sung another piece, after which the minutes of the last annual meeting was read by the Secretary, and corrected so as to show that the "History of Dacotah" was presented to the Society by M. K. Armstrong, instead of Gen. Garfield, and adopted.

J. C. Curtiss, Esq., of Fitchville, and a member of the Historical Committee of that Township, offered a written report from the Committee, the reading of which was postponed to the afternoon session.

Mr. Ebenezer Osborn, of Fitchvile, then read an account of the names and number of the "Pioneers" of that Township who have died since 1825. On motion, the thanks of the Society were voted to Mr. Osborn, and it was ordered that his contribution be published in the Pioneer.

The Secretary read the Constitution, and the names of twenty-six new members were added.

The Chairman of the Committee appointed at the annual meeting to attend the annual meeting of the Maumee Valley Pioneer Association, then made a report of his visit.

Judge S. C. Parker then exhibited a book printed in 1815, by McArdle & Co., being a history of the American Revolution in scriptural language; also, a Biograpical Sketch of Seneca John; also, the Life of Ralph Farnham, the last survivor of the battle of Bunker Hill.

Mr. J. C. Curtiss then presented to the Society, in behalf of Mrs. King, a copy of the first prayer offered in the American Congress, which was read in an impressive manner by Rev. H. S. Bennett, of Wakeman.

The Secretary then read a report from the Publishing Committee, of which the following is the substance:

No. Pioneers published,	1,000
Receipts from sales to date,	$360.50
Amount due from agents,	$22,50—$383.00
Paid expense of publication and distribution,	382.90
Balance,	.10

The report also states that Vols, 5, 6, 7 and 8, and Nos. 1, 2 and 3 of Vol. 2, are the only publications of the Society that can be furnished; and that the Committee desire to repurchase Vols. 3 and 4, and No. 4 of Vol. 2.

The meeting then, on motion, adjourned till 1½ o'clock P. M.

AFTERNOON SESSION.

Those present, after having partaken of the bountiful hospitality of the good people of Fitchville, reassembled at the hour appointed.

The names of the following persons who were present, and who had served in the War of 1812, were forwarded to the Secretary, together with the names of the localities in which they respectively served:

Names.	Residence.	Served,
Zalmon Green,	Genessee Co., N. Y.	Niagara.
Sherman Smith,	Clarksfield,	Ft. Meigs.
Nathaniel Mills,	New London,	Ft. Erie.
Samuel A. Hakes,	Fairfield,	French Mills.
Jermiah Cole,	Greenfield,	Sackett's Harbor.

Music by the choir.

The following relics and curiosities were then exhibited by the following named persons respectively: By Mrs. Susannah Austin, a Bible 140 years old. By Abram Phillips, a huge iron Bear Trap, made in 1752, in New York, near the Catskill mountains, and that has been upon the

Firelands thirty years. By the same, a pair of Spectacles brought from Ireland by Abram Holmes, in 1758. They can be used by a person of any age. By the same, a "King's Arm," surrendered by Burgoyne to Gates, at Stillwater in 1777. By R. S. Miles, a Powder-horn, made by his grandfather before the Revolution. By Hannah Whitcomb, a Lady's large Back Comb, bought in 1834. By Mrs. Abigail Green, an earthen Pepper Box, over 30 years old.

Mr. J. C. Curtiss then read to the Society a brief history of Fitchville Township, prepared by himself as a member of the Township Committee, and referred to in the forenoon proceedings.

On motion, Ebenezer Osborn, of Fitchville, was added to the Historical Committe of that Township.

The Biographer then presented to the Society, in behalf of Col. Charles Whittlesey, a history of Tallmadge, Ohio.

Mrs. Susannah Austin, of Hartland, a lady 93 years of age, being present, was introduced to the meeting by Rev. J. C. Thompson.

The following named gentlemen then addressed the meeting upon topics connected with the objects of the Society or the early pioneer history of the speakers: Eli Barnum, of Clarksfield; Rufus Sheldon, of Greenwich; S. C. Parker, of Greenfield; Rev. J. C. Thompson, of Medina County; Elijah Bemiss, of Groton; D. G. Baker, of Ripley; Elder Gilbert Evans, of Richland County; Judge Z. Phillips, of Berlin; Rev. H. S. Bennett, of Wakeman; Rev. John Vetter, of Oberlin.

On motion, Wakeman was fixed upon as the place of holding the next Quarterly Meeting, and the following named gentleman were appointed as a Committee of Arrangements: C. C. Canfield, Minot Pierce, A. Harris, E. J. Bunce, C. F. Lewis, Harry Peck and J. C. Sherman.

On motion, the thanks of the Society were returned to the citizens of Fitchville for their cordial hospitality tendered upon the occasion, and also to the choir for the excellent music furnished.

The meeting then joined the choir in singing the Doxology in Old Hundred, after which the President declared it adjourned.

CHARLES P. WICKHAM, Sec'y.

QUARTERLY MEETING.

AT WAKEMAN.

The second Quarterly Meeting of the Firelands Historical Society for the current year, was held in the Congregationel Church, in Wakeman, on Wednesday, Dec. 11, 1867, at half-past ten A. M., and was called to order by Hon. Z. Phillips, of Berlin, President of the Society, assisted by E. Bemiss, of Groton, Vice President.

Prayer was offered by the Rev. Xenophon Betts, (now of Vienna, Trumbull County,) formerly first pastor of the Congregational Church of Wakeman, after which the choir, under the direction of L. S. Hall, Esq., gave an opening anthem, entitled "Trust in the Lord,"

The Secretary then read the minutes of the preceding meeting, held in Fitchville, which were found correct, and approved.

Not having a list of the Township Historical Committees at hand, the Secretary then called over a list of Townships, for reports from said Committees, but none were ready to report; D. H. Pease, of Norwalk, C. F. Lewis, of Wakeman, and President Phillips on behalf of the Committee in Danbury, reported progress on reports from said Townships.

A short report from the Biographer, Rev. S. C. Parker, was then read, from which it appears that the

following named Pioneers residing in Greenfield at the dates of their deaths, have lately deceased, viz: Betsey Armstrong, wife of W. H. Armstrong, aged 54 years; Katy Davis Miller, aged 84 years; and Anna Starr, relict of Noah Starr, aged 83 years.

The Constitution was then read, and tweny-nine new names were added to the Society.

On motion of D. H. Pease, who presented the subject on behalf of J. H. Niles, of Norwich, the Township Historical Committees were requested to urge upon persons who may be preparing historical sketches of Townships, to bring the history of said Townships down to the year 1840 at least.

On motion of the same gentleman, the Publishing Commitee were authorized to make preparations so soon as practicable, for the publication of the next volume of the Pioneer in June next.

The Rev. Zenophon Betts, on behalf of the Congregational Society of Wakeman, then referred to a relic of some interest, which stood in front of the pulpit in the Church in which the meeting was held, and which was the first pulpit built in said Township, and from which the speaker first preached in 1832; this article is further referred to under the head of of relics. Remarks were also made on the above relic by President Phillips and Rev. C. F. Lewis. The exercises for the forenoon were closed by singing, by the choir, the anthem, "Bless the Lord."

The Society then adjourned to the parsonage, near at hand, and which is now unoccupied, and partook of a very bountiful repast, provided by the citizens of Wakeman, which all seemed to enjoy to their utmost capacity; indeed the entertainment was as good as, or better than, the Pioneer Society ever sat down to before.

After the dinner, the Society, augmented by fresh arrivals from all quarters, gathered again in the Church, which was filled to overflowing, and the exercises opened by singing by the choir, the old tune "Exhortation."

The presentation of relics being next in order, the following were shown: By Wm, S. Howard, of Wakeman, a small keg or flask made from a large ox-horn, by his grandfather, John Oastin, who carried rum in the same during the Revolutionary War; the flask was carved with the owner's name, date and place of camp, and some services; also, an elk horn found in Hartland some thirty years ago; also, an Indian stone axe found in the same township.

By Mrs. S. E. Lawrence, of Wakeman, an ink stand over one hundred years old, brought from Germany in time of Revolutionary War, by Nicholas Kyser, who afterwards served in the Colonial army; also, a small pair of mittens, knit by her mother, fifty years ago this winter, and worn by members of the family for many years.

By E. J. Bunce, of Wakeman, Trumbulls twelve discourses on the Holy Scriptures, printed at Hartford, Conn., in 1799.

By Mrs. E. J. Bunce, a housewife, made by her Grandmother, Artemesia Coe, sixty years ago; it contained specimens of home made linen thread, cloth and lace, also a lock of her hair, and needles and pins placed there by her own hand over fifty years ago.

By Miss Celestia A. Bunce, an English goldfinch, brought from England by Thomas Buston; it was stuffed in 1805.

By Mrs. Lucy F. Bryant, of Wakeman, a hand reel, made by Nathaniel French, of Maine—her brother—and presented to her; also a copy of the

American Preceptor, bought by her father, Joseph French of Maine, in 1815; also a pocket handkerchief made by Mrs; Bryant in Maine in 1822, when she was sixteen years old; also a quarter of a large handkerchief or shawl, made by Mrs. Mary French, of Maine, who was the grandmother of Mrs. B.; age unknown.

By Mrs. Amos Clark, of Wakeman, a pair of linen sheets made by her in 1824, and also a linen tablecloth made of the first flax seed raised in the township.

Also, a pair of linen sheets, now seventy-five years old, spun and woven by Mrs. Manville (the mother of Mrs. C.) whose maiden name was Ruth Wooster, when she was only fourteen years old. Mrs. M. is still living, in the 90th year of her age.

By A. B. Coe, of Wakeman, a silver stock buckle, worn by his grandfather, Israel Coe, in the Revoluary War, and brought to Ohio in 1809; age unknown. Also, an ancient singing book, called "Smith and Little's Collection," brought by his mother from Connecticut in 1815.

By George B. Sherman, of Wakeman, a soldier's canteen, made of oil cloth, and used in the Revolutionary War.

By Mrs. A. Wilson, of Wakeman, a large pewter platter, also a smaller one, and a pewter cup, all of which belonged to her grandmother Mabel Franklin, whose maiden name was Pierson; the articles are more than one hundred years old.

By Abram Fisk, of Berlin, a stone hatchet, plowed up on the farm of E. Hill, in said Township. By A. C. Hall, of Wakeman, a pioneer pitchfork, supposed to be fifty or sixty years old; it was a good fork in its day, and in the hight of fashion.

By L. S. Hall, of Wakeman, the first township record of Wakman, used in 1824, from which the Secretary read a few extracts.

By C. C. Canfield, of Wakeman, a notice of a school-meeting in District No. 1 of Wakeman, held Friday, February 27, 1829, called to annul or set aside the proceedings of a previous meetiug.

By W. Buckman, an ancient pocket-book made in 1760. Also, an Ensign's commission issued to one of his ancestors, Edward Buckman, by Gov. Robt. Wright, of Maryland, in 1808.

By Rev. L. Waugh, of Wakeman, a black marble ink stand, one hundred years old, and which belonged to his grandfather.

By G. H. Camp, of Wakeman, the will of James Camp, his great grandfather, made in Woodbury, Ct., in 1755; it was an entailment, under the old Colonial laws, of an estate of realty, and personalty, "as long as grass grows and water runs."

By Mrs. Samuel Bristol, of Florence, an ancient wrought pocket book, over one hundred years old.

By Mr. Reddington, of Elyria, M. F. Tupper's Hymn for all nations, translated into thirty languages, upwards of fifty versions; a very valuable gift to the Society.

By Dr. G. G. Baker, of Nowalk, a copy of the original classification by sections of all the townships on the Firelands, and containing the names of all the original grantees, or sufferers by the fire, and the amount in pounds, shillings and pence, of their losses, and the amount allowed to them, and for which they were paid in land; the above document was duly attested by Isaac Mills, Clerk, New Haven, Conn., Aug. 28, 1811.

By D. H. Pease, of Norwalk, a copy of jointure or nuptial contract, made in Somers, Conn., in 1796, by and between Robert Pease, (his great grandfather,) and one Submit Chap-

in, to whom the said Robert was about to be married; this interesting document was read by the Secretary, to the audience, who listened very intently thereto.

The Pulpit, spoken of above, was then again referred to by the Secretary, who gave the following history of it: At the time the Rev. Zenophon Betts began preaching in Wakeman, the ladies sewing society resolved to provide him with a pulpit, and agreed to contribute each the sum of twenty-five cents, for that purpose; Amiel P. Pierce offered to give the lumber for one, if any one would make it; Geo. H. Hinman, a carpenter, offered his services, and soon constructed one, being a desk, raised platform, and seat for one all combined; it never was painted, and is still in good condition, having remained in the old school house ever since, where it was first placed in 1832.

The choir then gave the old anthem, "While Shepherds watched their flocks by night," after which the President introduced to the audience Rev. Zenophon Betts, who gave a history of early pioneer times in Wakeman, which was listened to with great interest. On motion of C. F. Lewis, a vote of thanks was given to the speaker, and a copy of the address requested for publication in the Pioneer.

Singing by the choir: "Old Windham."

Remarks on early pioneer life in Wakeman, were then made by the Rev. Mr. Talcott, Joseph French, and Isaac Todd; after which the choir sang "The Hill of Zion yields" &c.

The following Pioneers, with time and place of settlement were among those present:

Simon H. Sprague, Florence,.....1809
Clement Beardsley, Vermillion,.....1811
Eliza Denton, Florence,.....1813
Geo. Squires, Florence,.....1815
Elizabeth Malony, Florence,.....1816
Caroline Burr, Wakeman,.....1817
Mrs. S. Cleveland, Cleveland,.....1817
Z. Phillips, Berlin,.....1817
A. C. Hall, Brimfield, Portage Co.,.....1818
Rundle Palmer, Fitchville.....1818
Livey Rash, Groton, served in 1812,.....1819
Joseph French, Wakeman,.....1819
Marinda Johnson, Wakeman,.....1819
Fanny Squires, Wakeman,.....1820
Cyrus Miner, Wakeman,.....1820
L. M. Bodwell, Clarksfield,.....1820
Elias Denton, Fitchville.....1821
Ruth Ann Clark, Wakeman,.....1822
Amos Clark, Wakeman,.....1823
E. Bemiss, Groton,.....1823
Curtiss Burr, Townsend,.....1825
Cyrus Strong, Wakeman,.....1827
Susan A. Strong, Wakeman,.....1827
Mrs. Mindwell Waugh, Henrietta,.....1833
Gideon Waugh, Camden, served war of 1812, at Sackett's Harbor,.....1833

On motion of E. Bemiss, it was resolved to hold the next meeting of the Society in Clyde, Sandusky Co., and the following persons were named as a Committee of Arrangements for the occasion: Rev. E. Y. Warner, Rev. Geo. R. Brown, Col. C. G. Eaton, Capt. J. M. Lemon, Capt. R. F. Patrick, C. W. Page, Esq., C. Hunter, Esq.. Norton Russel, Esq., and John Buckingham, Esq.

On motion of D. H. Pease, a vote of thanks was given to the citizens of Wakeman, and committee of arrangements, for their boundless hospitalities, and to the choir for the excellent music furnished on this occasion; indeed, the character of the music given by the latter, was such as to please the Pioneers exceedingly well, and its performance very meritorious.

The audience then joined the choir in singing the Doxology, and the Society adjourned to meet in Clyde, on the second Wednesday of March, next.

Z. PHILLIPS, President.

W. C. ALLEN, Sec'y pro tem.

QUARTERLY MEETING.

AT CLYDE.

The third quarterly meeting of the Firelands Historical Society was held in the Methodist Sunday School Chapel, at Clyde, on Wednesday, the 11th day of March, 1868, and, at 11 o'clock A. M., was called to order by President Phillips, assisted, by Vice President Bemiss.

The exercises were commenced by the choir with a solo and chorus, entitled "Union, God and Liberty," after which the Rev. Wm. Leet offered a prayer.

The Secretary read the minutes of the last meeting, which were approved and adopted.

On call for reports from the Historical Committees, Dr. A. H. Agard announced one nearly ready from Danbury, and the Secretary presented one from Judge Summers, on the early settlement of Townsend, written by his brother-in-law, Johnson Wheeler, now of Lake County, Indiana; also, one from Philo Comstock, on the early settlement of Norwalk, by his father, Nathan Sellick Comstock, and his uncle, Abijah Comstock;—and one by Judge Parish, on the organization of Perkins, written by Amos Felt.

The Secretary then read a letter from the Secretary of the Licking County Pioneer Association, asking for an exchange of publications; the letter was accompanied by some papers and documents relating to said Society, for which the Corresponding Secretary of this Society has forwarded in return Nos. 1, 2 and 3 of Vol. 2, and Vols. 5, 7 and 8, of the Pioneer. Also, a letter from J. B. Cahoon, of Dover, Lorain County, on behalf of the Cahoon family, accompanied by an account of their last annual gathering, and inviting the members of this Society or any of them, to attend the next annual meeting of the family, to be held October 10, 1868.

On motion of Judge Parish, the offer of the Licking County Pioneer Associations, to exchange publications with this Society, was accepted, and the action of the Corresponding Secretary approved.

On motion of the same gentleman, the President was requested to appoint a Committee of this Society to attend the next annual gathering of the Cahoon family. The President appointed Judge Parish, D. H. Pease, E. Bemiss and Philo Wells. On motion the name of President Phillips was added to the list.

The Secretary then read the Constitution of the Society, and the names of fifty new members were added.

The Rev. G. R. Brown, on behalf of the Committee of Arrangements, made known the arrangements for the entertainment of the Pioneers during the dinner hour, after which the Choir sang "Home Again," and then all adjourned to enjoy the hospitalities of the citizens.

The people assembled for the afternoon services in the main audience room of the above named Church, which was filled to overflowing, and holding near 600 persons.

The Choir performed an anthem, entitled "Creation," after which Capt. J. M. Lemmon was introduced to the audience, and gave a spirited address, which was listened to with interest by the people.

A presentation of relics then followed.

By Dr. A. H. Agard, on behalf of Mrs. Phebe Pettibone, now 80 years old, relict of Truman Pettibone, Fsq., formerly of Danbury, Ohio, ancient pewter Candle Mold, for molding one candle at a time; given to Mrs. Pettibone, many years ago by a

Canadian Frenchman, and supposed to be one hundred years old; a volume of sermons written by John Howe, an English divine, with an introduction by Richard Baxter, in 1668; 3 commissions to Truman Pettibone, as Justice of the Peace in Danbury, Ohio, the first dated August 28, 1817, and signed by T. Worthington, Governor, and the other two in 1822 and 1829, respectively; a letter written in Danbury, Conn., Feb. 14, 1809. by Comfort Hoyt, Jr., to his son in Danbury, Ohio; a commission from Peter P. Ferry, Collector of Customs at Johnson's Island, to T. Pettibone, as deputy, dated June, 1816, and a letter from Ferry to Pettibone, written from Huron, a few days after giving the commission.

By Rev. E. Y. Warner, a rebel Lance, Hook and Hatchet, combined, which was picked up at the battle-field of Shiloh, and presented by the finder to Mr. W. Mr. Warner also exhibited the following articles on behalf of the following named persons respectively: for Mrs. H. Dean, a Looking Glass, now belonging to Mrs. Dean, and formerly owned by her great-grandmother; age unknown; also a fractional currency note for 6¼ cents, issued by the Fennsyl Agricultural and Manufacturing Bank, at Carlyle. Pa., Feb. 2, 1816; behalf of Rev. Mr. Smith, of Green Springs, a lot of ancient English coins, two pieces of which are called "Half Hard Heads," and are more than three hundred years old; also a copy of the works of St. Augustine, in Latin, published before the discovery of America, or nearly 400 years ago;—on behalf of Mrs. Spafard, an old American Speller, by Noah Webster, published in 1830.

Captain J. M. Lemmon, on behalf of the persons named below, then exhibited as follows, viz: for G. S. Dewy, three ancient deeds, one made by John Woodward to John Warner, at Lebanon, Conn., in 1708, one by Benon Trumbull to John Warner, dated 1713, and one by Daniel Horsford to Roger Dewey, dated 1764; also other ancient papers, such as a will, contract, &c., some of which were executed during the reign of George III; for Mrs. A. J. Stark, 2 Shoe Buckles and 1 Knee Buckle, worn by Phineas Stevens, (one of her ancestors) during the Revolutionary war; Mrs. Stevens formerly lived in Townsend, Huron Co., and died there in 1840, aged 92 years; for H. B. Vincent, a large old-fashioned copy of the New Testament, supposed to be at least 300 years old, printed in double columns, one column containing a very old version, and the other a later one, of about the date of the issuing of the Testament;—this venerable Book now belongs to Mrs. C. H. Adams, of Clyde, and has formerly been in the possession of her ancestors; also an ancient Primer, printed in London in 1502; it has been in the possession of Mr. V.'s ancestors for many years; for Mrs. Moore a colored china Creamer and Sugar Bowl, also an English beer mug, or small pitcher of curious material; all three articles being very old; for Mrs. Norton Russell, some ancient books and a pewter plate; also a band-box made of bark, and a larger box, of the same material and shape, called, in early times, a bureau; for Mrs. Henry Nichols, a scarlet, quilted vandyke, or shawl, made from an old cloak, of same materials, which said cloak had been worn in early pioneer times; also a hand-reel, the manner of using which was shown by Mrs. E. Mead, a pioneer woman.

By John Tuck, of Clyde, a walking cane, made in 1770, and which belonged to his Grandfather in Maine.

By John Bush, an ancient wrought worsted pocket-book, which his

Grandmother had received from her Grandmother, coming down through five generations, and being about 200 years old.

By Mrs. J. M. Collver, a rolling-pin, over 100 years old, and a sample of fine linen thread, spun by a great aunt of Mrs. C.'s mother, one Mrs. Allen; also a Methodist Hymn Book, published in 1815.

By J. F. Chapman, a Mexican surrapo, or cloak, bought by him in Matamoras, in 1847; also a Mexican bag, in which professional gentlemen carried their books; the bridlerein of a Mexican horseman; a purse made from the fibre of the century plant, in Mexico, and a flag, presented by the ladies of Tiffin, to Captain Chapman's company, Seneca Volunteers, in the 3d Regiment O. V. I., last war.

By Dr. C. G. Eaton, a leather pocket-book or wallet, carried by his grandfather, Abel Eaton, at the battles of Lexington and Bunker Hill; an English medal, made in the time of one of the Kings George, and which was found in Townsend, Sandusky Co., in 1867; it was quite old and rusty, and the inscription difficult to decipher.

By W. B. Smith, of Sandusky, a piece of wrought needle work, in a frame, made by his mother, Hannah Richmond, in Dighton, Mass., when she was only 12 years old; it was an excellent specimen of that kind of work; also an earthen soup tureen, formerly owned by his grandmother, and more than 100 years old, and a ball pin-cushion, now owned by Mrs. Jane Brown, made by her great-grandmother, more than 150 years ago.

By Mrs. Mahala Owen, "Goodrich's History of the United States," printed in 1824, and an English reader, bought by her father, in Yates Co., N. Y., 1815.

By A. S. Dunlap, an earthen canteen, being in shape, a hollow ring; this article was found on Wm. Kyle's clearing, six miles east of Cadiz, Harrison Co., Ohio, in the year 1814, by workmen who were engaged in log-rolling, and clearing land.

By Mrs. Harkness, of Clyde, a piece of cheese made in Wales, about the year 1810.

By W. R. Rathbun, of Clyde, a Bible printed in 1793, and given to his grandmother, Sylvia Merry, containing her family record. Mr. R's ancestors, Lucius Rathbun and family, were among the first, if not the *very* first settlers in the vicinity of Clyde, arriving on Coon Creek, a little west of the village, June 3, 1822; they were three days going from Bellevue to Clyde, eight miles; having to cut the road out most of the way, there being nothing but an Indian trail.

By Mrs. R. M. Bercaw, "Cramer's Magazine Almanac for 1822;" a small fancy box, of bark, over one hundred years old, and formerly her grandmother's; portraits of Mr. and Mrs. Stevenson, grandparents of R. M. Bercaw, being outlines of the head and bust, cut from paper, shoe-buckles belonging to Mr. Stevenson, over one hundred years ago; wristlets, over one hundred years old; also, by Mr. Bercaw, the early Township record and papers of Green Creek, from which Dr. Eaton read interesting extracts to the audience.

By Judge Parish, of Sandusky, 2 copies of the Connecticut Evangelical Magazine, published at Hartford, Conn., for the benefit of the Connecticut Missionary Society—one No. 4, Vol. 3, in Oct., 1802, the other No. 4, Vol. 4, 1804; the first contains a letter from the Rev. David Bacon, (father of Leonard Bacon, D. D., New Haven, Conn.) dated at Michilimackinac, July 2, 1802, giving an account of his unsuccessful efforts to establish a mission among the In-

dians on the Miami, (now called Maumee) and the commencement of another effort at Michilimackinac; 2 letters from Benj. J. Gilbert to the late David Abbott, one of the first settlers on the Reserve, and on the Firelands; the first dated at Hanover, Sept. 13. 1793, and the other at Alexandria, Dec. 16, 1797; a letter from Wm. B. Peters, Attorney at Law, to Stephen Russel, who formerly resided in the north-east part of Perkins, dated Hamilton, March 14, 1818.

By F. D. Reed, of Norwalk, a bow and arrows, from the Sioux Indians, near the head of the Yellowstone river; the buffalo skin case contained the arrows of three different tribes; the horn of an Antelope; the toe and tooth of a Grizzly Bear; a mountain Lion's claw, and some Sioux ornaments; all the above articles were brought from the far west, by Mr. Josiah Feagles, a hunter and trapper.

Martin Kellogg, of Bronson, one of the old Pioneers, had a satchel full of old books present, but want of time prevented their exhibition; indeed, the vast quantity, as well as antiquity of the rare books and relics exhibited on this occasion, where never equaled before, at any meeting of the Pioneers.

The choir and congregation then sang old "Coronation."

Remarks on early pioneer life were made by F. D. Reed, of Norwalk, Rev. Amos Fenn and Mrs. M. A. Donaldson, (formerly Mrs. Joseph Dean,) of Clyde, Gen. R. P. Buckland, of Fremont, and Vice President Bemiss, of Groton.

Rev. E. Y. Warner, of Clyde, then offered the following resolution.

Resolved, By the citizens of Clyde, that we hereby tender to the Firelands Historical Society, our thanks for the designation of our village as the place for holding this meeting; and we invite the Society to remember our village in the future, and we pledge to its members the hospitality due to the old Pioneers. Carried.

On motion of Judge Parish, the Society returned thanks to the citizens of Clyde for their boundless hospitality, to the choir for the excellent music furnished on the occasion, and to the people generally for the hearty welcome they have given us, by the grand outpouring of their numbers.

The Secretary, on behalf of the Biographer, who was absent, then annouced the death of the following named Pioneers:

Samuel Bristol, Florence,	aged	80
Ebenezer M. Barnum, Clarksfield	"	74
Elijah Bills, Hartland,	"	68
Charles Hubbell, Ridgefield,	"	80
Union White, New London,	"	60
Aaron Rowland, Clarksfield,	"	87
William Gregory, Bronson,	"	82
William Gibbs, Milan,	"	76
Mrs. Julia Taylor, Perkins,	"	81
Mrs. Grace Prentiss, Ridgefield,	"	101
Mrs. James Buchanan, Norwalk,	"	86
Elizabeth Delamater, Norwalk,	"	90
Ann McFarlin, Bronson,	"	82

On motion of W. C. Allen, the Society appointed G. T. Stewart, Esq., of Norwalk, editor of the next volume of the Pioneer, and Col. C. P. Wickham canvassing agent for the same. All persons willing to act as local agents were requested to send their names to Col. Wickham.

For the Annual Meeting which assembles at Norwalk, the second Wednesday of June next, the following named gentleman were appointed a committee of arrangements, viz: O. Jenney, F. Sears, C. E. Newman, R. T. Rust, H. M. Wooster, D. D. Benedict, and E. E. Husted.

The choir sang "A Thousand Years Ago"—a beautiful piece—after which the audience slowly dispersed.

Z. PHILLIPS, President.

W. C. Allen, Sec'y, pro tem.

HOURS WITH THE PIONEERS.

OLD TIMES ON THE FIRE LANDS.

Under this head, the Sandusky Register published the following report from its correspondent of the speeches and proceedings at the Quarterly Meeting of the Firelands Historical Society held at Clyde.

Dr. Agard stated that in visiting a number of the old Pioneers for the purpose of obtaining material for a history of Danbury township, in Ottawa County, which he is writing for the Society, he became acquainted with a great number of stories and possessed of several interesting relics of the past.

As early as 1806, Joseph Ramsdell visited Mustcash Point, and was there at the time of the eclipse of that year. In the year 1809 "Governor" Wolcott came to the Firelands. Widow Ramsdell, of Bloomingdale township, related a story to the Doctor, of "Governor" Wolcott, at that time light house keeper on the Peninsula. She stated that among other merits he possessed that one of being an excellent fiddler. After the peace with Great Britain, the young people of Cleveland, (the few who were at that time living there,) resolved to give a ball in celebration of the peace. All the concomitants of a first class ball, except a fiddler, were at hand. Where and how to obtain the latter was the puzzle. Finally they bethought themselves of the "Governor," and he was at once invited to attend.

When the appointed time arrived he and his daughter mounted their horses, rode down to what was then known as The Meadows—a long point stretching from the Peninsula toward Cedar Point, now almost washed away by the waters of the lake—got into a canoe and swam their horses over the channel to Cedar Point, and then journeyed overland, through the wilderness, by Indian trail to Cleveland to attend the "ball," where Governor Wolcott played the fiddle to the entire satisfaction of the "goodlie companie." The young lady in her journey through the wilderness did not wear hoops of the largest pattern.

The Doctor found a Mrs. Pettibone living on the Peninsula. She was hale and hearty, and could talk faster than he could write, and withal was exceedingly correct in her memory of dates. When she first came from New Haven, Connecticut, she lived in a log house, and she didn't like it in the woods. She was glad to see even a dog if he came from "the east." She still has a butter dish which the Indians carved from a knot and gave her. She would be pleased to present it to the Society, but then she had promised it to her grand-daughter when she married, "and," added the old lady, "the girl

told me the other day, she would call for that butter dish soon."

Mrs. Pettibone had a metal candle mould given to her by a French Canadian, which she gave the Doctor to present to the Society. Before she got that mould she used to burn a *flip ding*. The Doctor said he had heard of about every thing that would burn and give light, but he confessed his ignorance of her meaning. She explained by stating that a "flip ding" was a hollow dish filled with hog's grease, with a little twisted rag stuck in it. The Doctor remembered to have used a "flip ding" himself in times gone by.

A commission from Col. Peter P. Perry, first custom-house officer, appointing Mr. Pettibone, Deputy Collector of the Port of Sandusky, was introduced. It bears date 1816. The custom-house was then located on Johnson's Island. The Island was at that time partly cleared off and sold in village lots. Col. Peter P. Perry, a few days after the date of the above document, was in Huron, from whence he wrote a letter, which was presented to the Society, stating that he was looking for smuggled goods, that he intended to do his duty, and would be obliged to his wife if she would—send him some clean shirts.

The Doctor, in his antiquarian researches, found a squaw, the last of the Ottawas, living in Catawba Township. She is married to a German. She had no knowledge of Ogontz, but Mrs. Pettibone remembered him, his stately form, his noble bearing, and his dress. When the Ottawas removed to Canada this squaw did not go. She spoke of the old orchards of the Peninsula. One in particular she remembered as having stood in the center of dense woods. Now but five or six trees remain, the waters of the lake having carried away land, timber and orchard.

Mrs. Russell, of Clyde, presented to the Society a bandbox and bureau, made from bark. The bark was taken from a tree which once stood near the site of the church in which the Society was now convened. Mrs. Russell remembered standing by her husband with a bush to keep the musquitoes from devouring him while he pulled bark to make bandboxes and bureaus. The musquitoes were not only thick, but in size they were enormous.

F. D. Reed, the first white child born in Greenfield Township, Huron County, was introduced to the audience immediately after Mrs. Russell had closed her remarks. Looking at the upturned faces, he said, of those present he could see but few who were Pioneers in his young days. One by one they were passing away, and the time was not far distant when all would be gone, and these meetings of the old and young, while they tended to awaken thoughts of old times, and to bring old friends together, were more especially designed to interest the young people, whose duty it was to write the history of the Pioneers. He had with him a bow, some arrows, and a quiver, taken last winter from some Crow Indians, on the Plains, not far from the mouth of the Yellowstone river. He pressed the arrow against the string and said, in a playful manner, that if it should slip it would go through considerable of a man. He also had an antelope's horn, a bear's tooth and claw, and a squaws's garter; the latter he said was presented to, and not captured by, the young man who gave it to him.

He loved to see the prosperity with which they were surrounded. Our Pioneer mothers were women of courage and endurance, and labored steadfastly with their husbands to redeem the wilderness, and make homes for the present genera-

tion. And it was for the present generation to write their history and to write it as it was told them. The history should not be written by townships alone, but by families. If mothers should tell their children to write "*hog, pounded corn* and *corn cake*" he wanted it so written. He did not wish the young ladies and gentlemen of to-day, for the sake of politeness, to set it down "*pork hominy* and *corn-bread.*" The Pioneer women called things by their right names, and they were women of education, refinement, and culture. His mother had eaten those things, and her parents were wealthy. She had been reared in the East, in the land of luxury, but when she came to the Fire Lands she was glad to cook and eat what she could get. She was not to proud too pound corn in a mortar, or wear dresses of her, own spinning. If she had corn cake hog, bear or deer to cook, she ate it and thanked the God who gave it to her.

He remembered when he was a boy and used to wear leather pantaloons, of the circuit preacher coming around every quarter; he remembered how he used to go to the rear of the old log house in which he lived, and pick up the yellow earth from cracks and rub it over his breeches to hide the oil and grease, and then, when the yellow clay had made his dress look clean, he would wash his feet and come bare-footed into the room and attend divine service. And those services, held in the old log cabin, were attended by all the settlement. They were among the most pleasant memories of which he was possessed, for he never thought of them but the faces of his parents were with him.

They had noble girls in those days. They were brought up on hog, corn cake, oil cake and other wholesome food. Their step was light, their cheeks were red and rosy and they came out to church in their clean linen dresses, woven by their own hands and colored in plaids with copper colors. Their hair was rolled up in little rolls and curled about their cheeks, or was tied in place by a piece of blue or red ribbon. "These girls," he said, "how the boys loved them. They thought everything of them. These girls were your mothers."

How the times have changed since he was a boy. Now children can send for their parents, or friends, by telegraph, and have them at their doors within a few hours. But a short time since he was standing at the depot, at Norwalk, and the past and present came before him, in a glance as it were, and as the noble locomotive came steaming along, a childish thought rushed into his mind and he cried aloud, "*father, see that!*" and then he remembered that his father had passed away long years ago, gone to return no more.

He could remember where the first town meeting was held; where the first still house was; where the first sermon was preached, and where the first mill stood. They were his father's and were erected about the year 1812. In those days the minister who preached to the people would come to his father's house, eat at his table and drink the pure liquor made at his father's still. Everybody drank whisky then. People had not learned to adulterate it and make poison.

At the close of Mr. Reed's remarks, Mrs. Jackson and another lady—representatives of Pioneer days—were called upon to reel some yarn on a hand reel, and the way they made the yarn "get up" was considerably faster than forty knots an hour. They caused a considerable amount of merriment among the

audience, the majority of whom had never before seen this done.

The good old fashioned hymn, old "Coronation," was then sung by the audience, after which, Mr. Amos Fenn of Clyde, said that on the 5th day of January, 1817, he landed at the mouth of the Huron river. He had emigrated from Litchfield county, Connecticut, and was proud to say that he was every inch a Yankee. When he arrived in this State he was much disappointed with the inhabitants whom he found living here. They were for the most part an indolent set of people, who lived by hunting and fishing. James Gibbs, at that time living between Vermillion and Huron, a man well to do in the world, possessed of broad improved acres, of horses and cattle, told him a story of some boys coming down from the neighborhood of Huron, some four miles, to buy one-half a bushel of potatoes. They said they had killed a coon, "and you know Mr. Gibbs," said they, "that coon meat grease, and potatoes is good." Mr. Gibbs was particularly pleased to think that they should know he believed "coon and potatoes" to be good.

When Mr. Fenn landed at Huron a small settlement had been located near the mouth of the river. At that time a man named Cochran had a dry goods and grocery store there. The site of the original town of Huron has long since disappeared the waters of the lake having washed away broad acres, streets and buildings.

On the 8th day of January, 1817, Mr. Fenn, in company with two other men named Ransom and Hall, started for Sandusky. The year previous, in 1816, Mr. Z Wildman, one of the original proprietors of Sandusky City, had commenced to put up a building for a dry-good store. Mr. Fenn went to work on that building and assisted in roofing and finishing it up to receive goods.

This building, a small, frame one, on Water street, opposite Robertson's Grocery Store, is still standing and is now occupied by Barney Esch, as a Shoe Store.

When the building was completed he went to work on one for William B. Smith, Sr., which was erected the same year. Sometime in January or February, 1818, Cyrus W. Marsh put up a building in the construction of which Mr. Fenn assisted.

The next season Mr. Fenn had the intermittent fever and did not work for three months. The season following he had that soothing complaint, the ague, and shook almost daily from the first of July to February, and he was not only sick of the ague, but of the country. There being no quinine in the country, they gave him "bark." He found it a hard country to live in. Money was scarce, but work was plenty, and the fare was not so good as that he had been used to when a boy.

There were but two families at that time in Sandusky who took boarders. Hall did not take them, but Ransom did. Board was then worth three dollars and a half per week, and there was little change in the "bill of fare." The dishes were, for breakfast, dinner and supper, venison, or bear, or coon, as the case might be potatoes, (when they could get them) corn cake, and regularly, every meal, *fresh cat-fish.* "Somehow," said Mr. Gibbs, "I have never cared much for cat-fish since."

In the year 1820, four men, Page, Smith, Thompson and Mr. Fenn, went to Clyde to buy land. The first night out they stopped not far from the site of Mustcash meeting house. At Clyde, and in that vicinity, they found 4 men named Barber, Burgess, Davenport and Benton. At the house of Mr. Benton they put up

for the night. The land at that time, was open to all settlers, had never been surveyed, and they were looking for choice bits to squat upon. The next day they went as far as Green Creek, but finding nothing suited to their tastes, they returned to their starting point, the house of Mr. Benton.

In the morning, Mr. Benton said to Mr. Thompson, "go and see my clearing, and if it suits you I will sell it cheap." The trio went down to the spot where Mr. Harkness now lives, and found that Mr. Benton had cut down a few trees, and thought himself owner of his "improved land," and the wild land in its vicinity. Mr. Thompson inquired of Mr. Benton what he would take for it. "If you like the land," said he, "and want it, you can have it for a barrel of whisky." Mr. Thompson took the land, and Mr. Benton took the whisky.

They then came back and put up a house on the identical eighty acres on which Clyde now stands. That was the first house erected within the present incorporated limits of Clyde. They then went back to the clearing and erected two houses, one for Mr. Thompson, and one for Mr. Page.

Messrs. Fenn and Smith then went to the Peninsula, where they remained for some time, assisting to erect and finish off the light-house at Marblehead. The country at that time was very new, and the lake shore from Huron to Upper Sandusky, (now Fremont,) was the portion most sought after by people arriving from the Eastern States, a large majority of whom gave Cleveland the "go by," and landed at either Huron river or Sandusky, from thence they located in what was then known as Huron County.

Mr. Fenn once asked Dr. Tilden what he thought the most unhealthly year at Sandusky. He answered, "1819." Mr. Fenn stated during that year there were not well ones enough to take charge of the sick. There was not a house in the vicinity of Sandusky in which some of the inmates were not sick, and many died. For his part he had never seen such an unhealthy time since, and he never wished to live in such an unhealthy place again.

Sometime during the years 1919, Mr. Fenn started for Cleveland, and at night he put up at a log-house by the wayside. His hostess, while preparing supper, inquired where he lived. "In Sandusky," said he. "In Sandusky!" exclaimed the good woman, suspending her labors and holding her hands aloft in astonishment. "Why they all die in Sandusky." He answered her that they didn't all die, although some of them did.

After leaving the Peninsula, up to the present time, Mr. Fenn stated that he had resided at Clyde, with the exception of a short time at Mustcash. He had traveled from Clyde to Castalia, on Coal Creek, when there were but two houses on the way, and no roads except Indian trails. He had seen friends sicken and die; seen multitudes go the way of all the living. He had lost many whom he loved, whom he respected, but there were none gone who awakened in his heart deeper feelings than Moses Farwell.

When Mr. Z. Wildman was one of the proprietors of Sandusky, Moses Farwell was his clerk and managed his business for him. He first became acquainted with Mr. Farwell while working on Mr. Wildman's building, and the friendship then began lasted for life. Mr. Farwell was afterwards Associate Judge, and at all times, and in all places, public and private, he was the good citizen, the sterling, upright man; and now, after the lapse of many years, it filled his heart with gratitude to

look back and recall a perfect man. The race of the old Pioneers was almost run, and when his turn came to depart he only hoped it might be said of him, as of his friend, "he was a man who cherished malice toward none, but good feeling toward all."

The Pioneer Ladies were then called upon to relate their experience.

Mrs. George Donaldson, of York, said that she came to Lyme in 1821. At that time her maiden name was Thrall. Soon after her arrival she taught school on Strong's Ridge, and she could well remember the old school house, its surroundings, and the healthful faces of the pupils. Those little boys and girls had since grown up around her: some few were living in the neighborhood yet, while others had changed their homes and gone, she knew not where and others still had gone forever from earth.

One day while she was teaching school, Mr. Bemiss' wife sent up to the Ridge and requested that she would step in and see her as she returned after school was dismissed. On her way home she stopped at the house of Mr. Bemiss, and found his wife very ill with the ague. "Miss Thrall," said Mrs. Bemiss, "do you think this country is fit for a dog to live in?" and, continued Mrs. Donaldson, "I must say, I said I didn't think it was." What with sickness, fevers, agues, and the like, a scarcity of food and clothing and the necessaries of life, the times were what would now be called hard, and to say the best that can be said, they were considered none of the best then. After teaching school one year in Huron county, she returned to her home in Greenville, Licking county, Ohio, where she married, in 1822, her first husband, Mr. Dean.

Sometime in the year 1822 she returned with her husband to York, Sandusky county, and for a long time thereafter they practiced home industy in the manufacture of household goods and cooking utensils. The cradle her first child was rocked in was made of pulled bark, and the first churn, dipper and butter dishes were manufactured from gourds. When her baby was about six months old her husband and herself came to the conclusion that it must have a pair of shoes. What to make them of was a puzzle. After talking about several articles her husband remembered a rattle snake skin he had in the loft, which the Indians had tanned for him, and that, they concluded, was just the thing they wanted. Accordingly a last was made of a potato, and then Mrs. Dean, made the shoes over it, and an excellent fit they were.

Their first pleasure carriage was a one-horse wagon, drawn by a black and stately ox. The name of this ox was Pete, and he was wont to trot off with a great deal of dignity. In that carriage they went to church, paid visits, did marketing and put it, in fact, to all uses a first class carriage is now-a-days considered worthy of, and they enjoyed their rides too, for they were in style, up with the times, and their outfit was equal to any in Sandusky county.

When they first located at York the land was new: the timber had to be cleared off, fences built and the soil broken up. All this required time and labor. Wheat was put in in the Fall and corn in the Spring and during the summer months it must be gathered and cultivated. The mode of building fences, improving the farm, and cultivating the crops, left but little time for making improvements about the house, and for a long time she was obliged to go up and down a ladder, in and out of the well, carrying water, because time could not be spared to stone the sides of the well up, and rig a

pole to draw it with. But all things came right in time and their home at York was not an exception.

For a long time after their arrival in Sandusky county, they lived in fear of the Indians. The noble red men were their nearest neighbors and quite frequently came to their cabin and were always in the neighborhood. The nearest settlement was not less than one and a half miles from their place. Her husband would be working all day in the fields, and she would be at home alone with the children. The Indians, however, never offered her any violence, and white settlers continued to arrive in the neighborhood and finally the Indians disappeared almost without her noticing that they were gone.

At this point, Mrs. Donaldson, unable to control her feelings retired to her seat. Her remarks from first to last had been listened to with the deepest attention and were delivered in a manner that made it manifest to all that she felt every word that she said. There was scarcely a dry eye in the congregation, all were in sympathy, and great tears were rolling down many a furrowed cheek of the old Pioneers, who knew the times of which she spoke, and felt in their hearts *all* that she felt in her brief of "olden time."

Hon. R. P. Buckland said, that he should have returned to Washington the day previous, but for the fact that some months since he had attended a Pioneer meeting at Greenfield, and had been so much interested in its proceedings that he could not resist the temptation of remaining to attend this one. He was not himself a Pioneer; he had been in this section of the country but 31 years and he would not have his lady friends think he was *old* enough to be a Pioneer. He was only the son of a Pioneer.

His father emigrated from Massachusetts to Franklin Township, Portage County, Ohio, in 1811. In the war of 1812 he was a member of Captain Campbell's company of Portage County Volunteers, and marched through this section of the county on his way to join Hull's army at Detroit. His father, an orderly sergeant, crossed the Huron river, with a squad of men, near its mouth, and remained several days at the house of Judge Harrington, after which he continued his march to Detroit, and was present at Hull's surrender. His father returned, after the surrender, to his home in Portage County, and shortly after died from the effects of disease contracted while in the service.

When Ralph P. Buckland was a young lawyer, traveling through the county collecting bills, he called at the house of Judge Harrington, who was at that time Justice of the Peace, to leave a bill for him to collect. He found an old greyheaded woman sitting at a loom, weaving, of whom he inquired, "is Judge Harrington at home?" Her reply was that he was not and would not be home for several days. Mr. Buckland then stated his name and business. "What," said she, "are you the son of Ralph P. Buckland who was in the army?" He replied that he was. She then told him that his father when he arrived at their place on Huron River in 1812, had found them all sick, but that during the few days he remained at their house cooking rations and preparing for his march, he had furnished them with medicines and other comforts for the afflicted, and that when he marched they were all able to get about. "My father," continued Mr. Buckland, "died before I could remember him, and you can judge how pleased I was to hear this story from one who knew him."

Dr. Hanchett, Post Surgeon at Upper Sandusky, about the year

1812, went up from Sandusky, or Ogontztown, as it was then called by many, in a boat, taking with him his wife and two children. During the summer season the troops and citizens suffered a great deal from sickness, and the medicines run out at the fort. Dr. Hanchett mounted his horse and rode through to Cleveland for medicines, but while there he was taken sick himself and did not return for three months. When he reached the Post, on his return, he found that his wife had sickened and died. Shortly after he removed to Portage county and became Mr. Buckland's step-father.

Mr. Buckland stated that he had a relic of the olden times, which he would be pleased to see in the hands of the Society. It was taken from the Indians on the Plains, and was given to him last winter, by a gentleman who had just come overland from the seat of the Indian war. It was a simple instrument, being nothing less than a whip, with which the Indians, in their playful moods, were wont to thrash their wives. The Pioneer Society not being in session at the time he received it, he had "given it to his wife."

Mr. Buckland closed by inviting the Pioneers to hold at least one meeting at Fremont. He believed Fremont had at one time been a portion of Huron County, and he assured them that the Society would meet with a warm and hearty welcome from the citizens of that place.

The Vice President Mr. Elijah Bemiss, at about five o'clock in the evening arose to make the closing remarks. He thanked the citizens of Clyde for their hospitality to the members and friends of the Society.

He remembered the ox that used to draw Mrs. Donaldson's pleasure carriage. He was a gentle fellow and one of the best of oxen to pull. In his young days he had taught school on the Fire Lands and he knew, at this time, every word in the old "English Reader," a book all who attended school fifty years since were familiar with. It was *the* reader of those days, they had none better, and there is no better now.

Some forty-five years ago he taught school on Strong's Ridge. On the prairies wood was scarce and they built the first stove, used in those parts, to warm the old log school house with. It was constructed of stone and was six or eight feet long and three or four feet wide. Around it the children used to gather on cold and stormy mornings to warm themselves after walking from one to three and five miles to school. School houses were not then as now, located on every corner; they were few and far between, and education did not, as now, come to scholars, they were obliged to go to it.

Years ago, when the country was a wilderness, he came to it. He had passed his young days amid its wild scenes and its privations; he had seen hundreds of those who were his companions in youth, his friends and neighbors in middle life, and old age, pass from the stage of the world; he had seen them drop away one by one, and leave no history behind, save that which was written upon the face of the country. Even their names would soon be forgotten amid the busy and ceaseless tramp of generations yet to come, unless it was written upon pages of history, which perish not.

Through ceaseless toil and long years of privation, the Pioneers had labored to redeem the Wilderness and bring order out of the chaos. Many of them had sank to rest long before the work was accomplished and their names living only in the memory of the surviving few, were fast passing away. At every meeting the death record was read and others were no more. The day

and hour was rapidly nearing when all would be gone, and those who could write should write history now. The old had made history, the young should write it.

The present was full of joy for the old. They knew that their labor had not been in vain. They could look on every hand and see well cultivated fields, railroads, steamboats, manufactories, churches and school houses. The old log houses were built no more, but in their stead stately edifices were rising on every hand. Homes of comfort were reared on the site of the old log house; stately mansions, churches and schools had been erected on spots where the Indians, in his young day, had built their wigwams. He hoped the young would cherish the civilization the old had left them. The Pioneers came to a wilderness, a wild country full of wild beasts and wilder men; they would leave, as an inheritance to their successors, a garden blooming with every blessing.

The "Song of a Thousand Years" was then sung by the choir, after which the citizens of Clyde each took a Pioneer or more, to his home, where they were entertained with many good things that refresh the "inner man."

PIONEER CELEBRATION.

EIGHTIETH ANNIVERSARY OF THE SETTLEMENT OF OHIO.

The Cincinnati Gazette published an interesting account of a celebration in that city, on the 7th of April 1868, by the Pioneers of Hamilton County, and their invited guests (Pioneers from other parts of the State) of the 80th anniversary of the settlement of Ohio, from which we make the following extracts:

Eighty years before this day, the settlement of the State had been made at Marietta, so named from St. Marie Antoniette, then Queen of France.

There the settlement began under the supervision of General Rufus Putnam, son of the General of Revolutionary fame. The original settlers were 47 in number, and from the States of Massachusetts, Rhode Island and Connecticut. They planted fifty acres of corn that year, and were subsequently joined by about twenty families more. General Arthur St. Clair, under the act of Congress of July 13, 1787, erecting the Northwest Territory, had been appointed Governor, and on the 9th of July following he landed at Fort Harmar. On the 15th of that month the ordinance of '87 was published. Samuel H. Parsons, James M. Varnum, and John Armstrong had been appointed Territo-

rial Judges. The last named having declined the appointment, John Cleves Symmes was appointed in his stead. Winthrop Sargent Secretary.

Under such men as these, Ohio began her career. On the 26th of July, the county of Washington was created, embracing about one-half of the present State of Ohio. A Court of Probate was created, the militia classified, and Rufus Putnam, Benjamin Tupper, and Winthorp Sargent appointed Justices of the Peace.

On the 30th of August a Court of Quarter Sessions was established, of which Return Jonathan Meigs became Clerk. Ebenezer Sprout was appointed Sheriff of the county, and William Callis, Clerk of the Supreme Court.

It is proper that we should recur to these names now, as showing something of the persons who saw the dawn of our glory as a State, and from whom many of the persons present, to-day, descended.

At 12 o'clock the Pioneers were called to order by the President of the Association, Robert Buchanan, Esq., and the exercises were opened with prayer by Rev. Samuel Brown, of Cincinnati.

Mr. Brown then took the stand, and said that he should open the exercises by reading from a Bible which had been in the possession of his family over a hundred years. He did not think a better use could be made of it than to read from it on this, the eightieth anniversary of the settlement of the Northwestern Territory, now the State of Ohio.

He then read the 71st Psalm, and offered up a short prayer, in which he referred to the facts that those from two score to five score years, were assembled to offer thanks for their preservation through many troubles and trials, and that there were now hundreds and thousands of people gathered together to worship God, where once a few were gathered to worship under trees, and in the midst of dangers.

Judge D. K. Este of Cincinnati, remarked that he had the likeness of an old lady who was said to have been the first white female child born north of the Ohio river, in the State of Ohio—Johannah Maria Heckewelder. In the year 1847, the Judge said he spent some time in Westchester, Pennsylvania, and in the vicinity of Philadelphia. Mrs. Harmer stated to him that she believed she was the oldest white child born north of the Ohio. She was born at Fort Harmer, in the year 1787. He happened afterward, to mention this to Miss Isabella Embree, sister of Mr. David Embree, of Dayton. Some years after, Miss Embree sent him a likeness, with the letter attached, which was delivered to him by Dr. Price, who then resided in this city.

The Judge then read the following letter:

"Bethlehem, February, 17, 1859.

"I was born April 16, 1781, in Salem, one of the Moravian Indian towns in the present county of Tuscarawas, State of Ohio, being so far as can be ascertained, the first white female child born of parents residing in that State.

Johannah Maria Heckewelder."

The Speaker then said that Mrs. Heckewelder was the daughter of John Heckewelder, who was a missionary sent from Bethlehem, Pennsylvania, and in the fall of 1781 they were taken prisoners by the Indians and carried to Detroit. After being released they were taken to Bethlehem. Mr. John Heckewelder's daughter was the first white child born of Christian parents in Ohio.

Colonel Augustus Stone, of Marietta, was introduced. He said he came here when ten years old, but

he well remembered the severe trials through which the pioneers passed. The second year after reaching Marietta there was a great scarcity, and there was much suffering. All their communication was with Wheeling and Pittsburg. For two or three months, it was said, they had nothing but beans and milk. Finally, he said, squashes ripened, and then he remembered of a man who remarked triumphantly to his father that "they couldn't starve us now," as they had "squash."

His father happened to have a little corn and pork. The corn, too, had to be ground by hand. This he remembered well, for he had to grind the corn before he could get his mush. He said they had the mill down on the river bank, and when they would begin to grind the boys would run and gather up the corn and eat it like pigs. The people were generally Revolutionary soldiers who were reduced in circumstances by the war. He remembered of hearing that Captain Devol came to his father and asked him for a little piece of pork, as his wife was sick, and did not see how she could live if she did not get some pork. His father gave him a piece, wrapping it up very carefully. This the Captain took home with him, and afterward told his father that they waited until their children went to bed before they cooked it, as they well knew that if the children were about when the meat was cooking, there would be no such thing as keeping them from it, and in that event, Mrs. Devol well knew that she must die. But they succeeded in thus stealing a march on the children, and when the meat was cooked, Mrs. Devol said she never tasted any thing as good in her life.

Col. Stone was in his 88th year. He came to Marietta in November, 1790. Two months after he arrived, the Indian troubles began afresh, all of which he remembered with singular accuracy. He came to Marietta with General Rufus Putnam, and relates many pleasant incidents of that pioneer. The Colonel says the General had three very accomplished daughters, for whom he procured a carriage in order to bring them to this country. This vehicle was drawn by three horses—two at the wheel and one in the lead. The latter it was customary to ride, and he had a great deal of tribulation in procuring a suitable rider. Finally the Colonel said he determined to try him, and he proved to be so acceptable that he had to do the riding during the remainder of the journey. He remembers with much interest a lady, Mrs. Mary Lake, who had a Sabbath School at Marietta about 1791 or 1792, which he thinks was the second school if not the first, of the kind formed in America.

Mrs. Lake was an unusually pious and accomplished woman. On Sunday she gathered together the children of the stockade, numbering about twenty-five or thirty, and told them Bible anecdotes, besides imparting such religious instruction as was adapted to their years. In addition to this, they had reading of the scriptures, prayer and singing, in all of which she succeeded in interesting the children to an unusual degree. Of the number that attended this, certainly the first Sabbath School in Ohio, only he and his brother, B. F. Stone, are now living.

Dr. Asa Coleman, of Troy, Ohio, was introduced. He said he did not claim to be one of the first, and yet he was something of a pioneer, having come to Ohio in 1807; to the Miami Valley in 1811. He was then about 18 years old. During the war of 1812 and '13, he resided in Miami county where matters of interest occasionally occurred in connection with the disturbances of that day. Some were killed, others were wounded, to

whom he was called for medical attention. He remembered well when three or four thousand Indians collected near the Indian Agency not far from Piqua. The Government had declined to employ Indians in the prosecution of the war, and they grew restless and uneasy. In more Northern localities, they were under British influence and were unfriendly. Finally, authority was granted to employ friendly Indians, and under General Winchester, Harrison, and others they did excellent service.

He remembered very vividly a little occurrence that took place during that disturbed period. He had returned after a long and hard day's ride, and was sitting in his cabin. Suddenly, about 9 o'clock, he heard a rap at his back door. As was the custom, he said, "Come in," and lo! when the door opened, a large Indian, in full costume, with belt, tomahawk and knife, confronted him. He had, near by, an old flint-lock musket, well loaded. Stepping back to reach this, the Indian exclaimed, "Don't be afraid." In reply to a question as to what brought him here, he said he wanted to see the "Medicine Man." The Doctor told him he must come to see the medicine man in daylight, and that he must wait until the next morning.

He afterward learned something about the Indian which was not devoid of interest. He had received a liberal education at Princeton. Before the war he returned to his nation, but was not well received. He could not hunt, and would not work, and the Indians called him a "squaw." Suspected by both whites and Indians, he was spurned by both. Afterward he became intemperate, and finally Montgomery Montour, for this was the name by which he was known, was killed in Piqua, Ohio.

In the autumn of 1811, the Doctor came to Ohio to practice medicine.

He remembered when at the landing at Cincinnati there were about a dozen flat boats and half the number of keel boats; the former for the lower, and the latter for the upper river trade. The "Martin Baun" was soon to arrive, three months and some days from New Orleans. This was of about a hundred tuns burthen. It was loaded, but not with sugar and molasses.

The people then made their own sugar and molasses from the tree, and sold it to their neighbors, the former at six cents per pound, the latter at fifty cents per gallon.

He asked them for a moment to look back and compare Cincinnati of 1811, with Cincinnati of 1868, her water crafts of the former year with the splendid fleets that now daily line the wharves.

He remembered the widow of a pioneer, who, after her husband had died in 1815, was in the habit visiting Kentucky every two years. She went on horseback, would pile her equipments on her steed, and mounting on top ride from thirty to forty miles per day. After three or four weeks she would return. Repeating this up to 1824, she was asked after her last visit, what she saw.

"Well," she said, "in Kentucky things were as usual, but in Ohio there were things she did not like. As she came along, she saw men plowing and scraping up the earth; who in answer to her inquiry, said they were making a 'canal.' She went on still further, and again she came where they were again plowing up the earth; and in reply to her question of what they were doing, was told how they were going to fill it with water from the river and use it for the passage of boats. This she told her friends she did not like. God had made the rivers, and

she did not think it was right to turn the Miami in this way. It grieved her to the heart to see the surface of God's earth broken up and spoiled in that way—and though she had traveled without fear up to that period, she did believe, if men kept on, that she should be afraid to make her usual visits.

Among the pioneers from Marietta, were three cousins named Putnam, all great-grand-child of General Israel Putnam. One of this number, Captain Wm. P. Putnam, was born at Farmers Castle, now Belpre, a military post, twelve miles below Marietta, as early as 1792, and is no doubt among the oldest men now living, who were born within the limits of Ohio. Though seventy-six years of age, he is wonderfully preserved, and by no means appears to be a man of that age.

Among other interesting things that came to our notice, was a knife, said to have belonged to Lewis Wetzel, the hunter and scout, which was on exhibition. It had a curved iron handle and a blade fully five inches in length, by one inch in breadth. The former was very much the worse for wear, but the blade was yet quite well preserved.

L. A. Lammot, Esq., of Marietta, had on exhibition a five dollar bill on the bank of Marietta, the first institution of the kind in Ohio. The bill was dated 1809.

The old folks were the lions of the occasion, and every coterie revolved about some venerable man or woman. There was Mrs. S. R. Strong, of this city, widow of Major Elijah Strong, who came to Cincinnati on the first day of the year 1798. How clear her memory, how distinct her recollection of the things that then transpired. She had been an inmate of old Fort Washington, remembered the garrison, the Indians, the troubles, the privations, had seen the cradle of Cincinnati.

Gov. Hayes, Ex-Gov. Cox, and other prominent citizens addressed the assembly. At dinner the table was loaded with every thing good. Many of the cakes were ornamented with miniature cabins made of sugar.

Toasts and speeches followed. Among the toasts were the following.

"The first settlers at Marietta—welcome to their worthy sons and daughters, our guests to-day. That band of Revolutionary heroes, who formed the colony at Muskingum, received the especial encomium of immortal Washington."

"To the memory of the Military Defenders of the West—The St. Clairs, the Harners, the Waynes, and to the noble hunters and Indian fighters of the dark and bloody ground."

"The friends we hold in reserve. Honor to the memory of the New England settlers of New Connecticut in Ohio—and welcome to our guests from Cleveland and the counties on the Lake border."

"Dayton Vincennes—former posts in the Maumee Valley. The Indian trails and the corduroy roads have given place to the railroad track. Dangers past are only hallowed in our remembrance to honor the Pioneers of those ever exposed frontier settlements."

"The common cause, education and virtue. May we with our common schools, rinks and churches, maintain the hearty health, rare good sense and Spartan virtue of the old folks. Let the free, unshackled press be true to these popular safeguards."

"The women. God bless them, morning, noon, night, and all the time."

On the next day several excursions were provided for the Pioneers to

Mount Auburn, Spring Grove, and other pleasant localities in the vicinity of the city. The *Gazette* concludes its report as follows:

"Thus closed, in some respects, one of the most interesting occasions Cincinnati has ever witnessed; interesting, because of the actors in the scenes of which we have written; sadly interesting, because we are constantly reminded that these links that bind us to the past must soon be severed. As we looked on these venerable men and women, who have lived in block houses and forts; who had seen hostile Indians prowling about their homes, or confronting them at their doors; who had subdued forests, and endured the trials of the frontier, and thought how soon all these living witnesses must pass away, the reasonableness of such meetings impressed itself upon us with increased force, and it seemed that they were quite too brief."

RAMBLING RECOLLECTIONS OF THE EARLY SETTLEMENT OF WAKEMAN.

AN ADDRESS BEFORE THE FIRE LANDS HISTORICAL SOCIETY, DEC. 1867, BY REV. XENOPHON BETTS.

It is with unaffected diffidence that I stand before you. When the invitation came to me to attend, my social sympathies almost bounded with the reply, "I will go." But when I read farther, the request that I should give a memorial address, I hesitated. Yet as the early scenes rose up before me, I was inclined to come, and promised. After I arrived in the vicinity, and saw some numbers of your reports, and read some of the able productions they contain, I felt almost like taking up the school boy's excuse, and saying "I am not prepared." But here you are, and here I am, and such as I have I will try to give you. I have neither eloquence, nor rhetoric, nor pathos. I shall only say such things as many already know, and say them in a manner which might seem better adapted to the fire-side or the family circle, than to the forum or the pulpit. They will be rambling recollections.

The early settlement of Wakman will be my subject. But before entering upon it, I would remark that this tract of country had an earlier history than any pioneer can relate, or any historian record. Before its first settlement it was visited by a tornado, which left its track over a large part of the north west quarter of the township in prostrate trees, tangled forest, and a young growth of timber, familiarly know as the wind-fall. Thus the providence of God visited it before man entered it.

Some late writer has said, with as

much truth as force, that, "God is in History." The changes, which are constantly taking place in the physical and social condition of the world, are not the results of the mere laws of matter, or the workings only of the social sympathies, unguided. They are not the workings of a blind chance, urging all things forward to a fatal destiny, unknown to any intelligent being. All these events are the constant workings of a wise and benevolent presiding Deity, who is conducting all the affairs of this lower world, as of all other of his dominions, to some appropriate and worthy end.

Though we may not, in this world, attain to the comprehension of the whole plan; yet we may gain new wisdom, and find new cause for confidence and admiration in contemplating those parts which come within the sphere of our observation and experience. It is by gathering and combining the facts in the experience and observation of individuals and commmunities, that we obtain the materials for such a universal history, as shall set forth the unity of God's plan, the wisdom of His purposes, and the benevolence of His operations. He knows the end from the beginning in all His works, and every event of history bears on the grand design.

It is in this view that we see the importance of just such works as we are prosecuting at this time. Allow me to say I rejoice in, and highly appreciate the work in which you, as a Society, are engaged, in collecting and preserving the incidents and the accidents connected with the early settlement of this region. You did not begin too early, and you will not pursue your work with too much care or diligence. The Pioneers, in this work of settlement, are already few and solitary. They stand among us like the few tall and naked trees which we can remember, scattered over this Windfall, when the improvement was first began in it. Those trees, by their tall stubs, their upright forms, or their shattered tops, testified to the storms which had passed over them, and to the struggles which they had had with the surrounding elements. So with the few remaining Pioneers. We exist among you as living witnesses still, but our testimony must soon be taken, or we shall be like the old trees of the Wind-fall, passed beyond the recollection of the rising generations.

Tradition is living history. It is that knowledge of past events, which is preserved by the fathers relating to their children and the generations coming, the things which have taken place in their days. These are handed down by the children, to succeeding generations. This form of history has some advantages over any other. In the first generations, it has the interest of narratives given by the living actors in the scenes. Events are called to remembrance, and the recollection awakens some of the same emotions which they originally excited. They are, seemingly, acted over before our eyes. And then, when they are handed down by succeeding generations, they have the interest of ancestral recollections. Our parents or grand parents, were connected with them, or were their actors. Such histories become profitable, as they embody facts worth remembering, and they become increasingly so, as they are connected with the notices of the superintending providence of God; His care, and protection, His wisdom, and goodness, His mercies, and His judgments.

God enjoined it, as a law, upon His ancient people to keep alive this kind of history. It was a means of interesting and instructing the young, and of keeping before them a constant recognition of God's

providence and character. "For He established a testimony in Jacob, and appointed a law in Israel; which He commanded our fathers that they should make them known to their children, that the generations to come might know them; even the children which should be born, who should arise and declare them to their children, that they might set their hope in God and not forget the works of God, but keep His commandments."

But while tradition has the advantage of being living history, it has also the liability to die if neglected, and to become erroneous if not fixed by the written record, during the age of the original actors in the scenes. For that reason it is desirable that incidents of early settlement should be gathered and recorded before the generation is passed away. For this reason I have accepted the invitation you have so kindly extended to me to come and contribute my offering towards the early history of this place. Although not a pioneer in the sense of breaking up the forest, I was, in the providence of God, the first pastor of the first church which was organized in the settlement. The forest had been opened about eleven years before I saw it. I then spent eight years in the midst of you, somewhat intimately connected with persons, with families, with the community, and with the changes and progress of the settlement. If I may be enabled to draw a map, physical and social of the settlement, as it was when I came, and then when I left, it may make a standpoint from which I may look back and make some remarks respecting that which had already transpired, and look forward to some things, which have taken place since I left. It must all be liable to the imperfections of frail humanity, and the errors of the memory of an old man. But such as it is, I cheerfully give my experience and observation.

It is now about thirty-nine years since I first came to this settlement. I was a missionary of the A. H. M. Society, and was directed here by my brother, Rev. A. H. Betts, the Pioneer of the churches in our connection in this region. The settlement had then been opened a little more than eleven years. There were about thirty families, mostly on the north west quarter of the township. The township was owned by Jesup, Wakeman, and Bronson, of Fairfield Co., Conn. A company in Southbury purchased the north west quarter, and a tier of lots adjoining on the south west quarter, and thus this portion was opened for settlement before the remainder of the township. For some reason the proprietors did not put the other portions into market, but very sparingly, for a long time. This delay was very trying to the few settlers who had come in, and they were not careful about sparing the lands of non residents from any taxes, which the laws would warrant for the improvement of the township, in roads, or school houses, or any thing else, which was needed. At the time I came, the settlement had been regularly organized with township privileges. It was divided into two school districts, the north west and the center, each having a log school huose. There was some form of military organization extending to the settlement. I have occasion to remember this, from the question coming up with regard to my liability do military duty, and the Col. of the Regiment, Cyrus Minor, offered to get for me if I wished, a chaplain's commission. I did not accept the proffered honor, nor did I ever do military duty here.

There were also two churches organized here, the Congregational church, at that time having about fifteen members, and a Methodist class, the number of which, at that

time, I am not able to tell. (For more minute particulars of numbers and dates, in many things, I would refer to an article on "Wakeman," in the Fire Lands Pioneer, Nov. 1859.)

Taking the famllies as they were at that time, I shall pass over them in their order by roads, thus giving a geographical and personal map of the settlement as it then was, adding such incidents as my own observation and experience may suggest, or such traditionary recollections as may spring up in my mind.

Beginning at the north west, following the road, the first family was Mrs. Buck with her son Ebenezer Warner. Mrs. Buck was formerly the wife of Abraham Bronson. Her son Ebenezer Warner was subsequently a magistrate and a member of the State Legislature. From this family, while it bore the name of Bronson, were probably the first two funerals in the place, viz: Mrs. Hendrick, the mother of Mrs. Bronson, and Mr. Bronson himself, shortly after. These were probably in the later part of 1820, or the beginning of 1821. The house stood where C. C. Canfield's now stands, or near that site. The end of the house, after the family had left it, was a bonfire, in sport without spite. The next family and habitation was that of Samuel Bristol. He was among the first three, but the last of the three. He arrived with his wife and son, July 4th, 1817. At the time I came I think his log house had given place to the substantial frame house where he lived till near the time of his death, though at that time it was unfinished. Mr. Bristol was an industrious man, a good neighbor, a wholesome citizen, but delighted more in the improvement of his farm and stock, than in public life. His widow, still living, is the only survivor of the heads of the first three families.

The next house was that of A. P. Pierce, an unfinished frame house, with which I have many tender and solemn recollections. Mr. Pierce was a man of stalwart frame, a firm purpose, and a noble generous heart. He was qualified by nature to be a leader, and providence favored the result. He was Justice of the Peace. At some time he had borne the rank, and he still bore the title of Captain. Without disparagement to any other settler, he was probably a man of more influence and extended acquaintance than any other, at the time I came in. This weight of character was used on the side of good order, education and sound morality. Although not a professor of religion, his house was ever open and free to religious men, and religious influences. It was there that the first Congregational church was organized; it was there that I was installed, as the first pastor of it. In the unfinished chamber of that house, may be, many will remember a scene, which I shall never forget. With a scaffold built for a pulpit stand, over what was afterwards the place for the hall stairway, in the north part of the chamber, with all the parts of the chamber arranged with temporary seats, a large Congregation was gathered, in connection with the Presbytery of Huron, April 9th 1829, and there, in connection with public worship, I received the Pastoral charge. It was my first, and although deeply sensible of the imperfection with which it was sustained, and the duties of it discharged, yet the time, and the place, and the persons, will never leave my affectionate remembrance while reason lasts. That house is also dear to me from other and more private considerations. There with a self denying generosity, characteristic of the family, I was, with my family, accommodated with the best part of their house for two years, as a family residence. There we named our two eldest children, the first born called

Samuel Pierce, partly in remembrance of the family kindness which we had experienced. Mrs. Pierce was a help-meet for her husband, in acts of hospitality, and in religious things, may be the moving spirit. She was the only visible professor of religion in the first three families in the settlement. A woman of strong emotions, of firm christian faith and deep religious experience, she was a consistent christian and kind friend, a devoted wife and mother. Called to pass through much labor and trials, she bore it with a christian heroism which many will remember. Though not perfect, yet always conscientious. I called at their house when I first entered the settlement, but she was in that situation in which it is not convenient to entertain company. I was led to the next house, and calling again the next morning, found her comfortable with an infant son. It was their last, and was not long spared to them. At about the age of two and a half years, they were called to give it up. It was while I was residing in the house with them. Not far from midnight it breathed its last, and I well remember, how we bowed together, under the stroke, around the family altar, while I tried to lead the family in saying "Thy will be done." This family came in in June, before Mr. Bristol. When they came they had four children and a hired man.

The next dwelling on the road was Chester Manville. There I spent the first night. It was the beginning of an acquaintance which has been only pleasant. After I left the place they passed through some sore afflictions. Twice the heart of the family has been torn away and he has been left desolate. At another time, by the kick of a horse, a son was suddenly taken from them. Though he lingered a few hours, and mostly without pain, yet the stroke was mortal.

The next family was Augustine Canfield. He was the first of the first three. He came in with his family in May 1817, before Mr. Pierce and Mr. Bristol. He had a wife and four children and a hired man. His house and family were, in more senses than one, the first among the pioneers. In his family was born the first white child in the township. A little less than a year from the time of their arrival, April 18, 1818, Burton M. Canfield was born. He is still a resident of this place. All these, of the first three were in some respects alike. They were among the enterprising yeomanry of the age, or they never would have penetrated the forest in such circumstances. They were men of public spirit, and a respectful regard to good morals in society, as the character of the society testifies. Mr. Canfield was in some respects unlike the other two. More disposed to be social than Mr. Bristol, less firm, resolute and persevering than Mr. Pierce. Somewhat impulsive in his temperament, though he might not have made so safe a leader, he was a very efficient helper in all that pertained to good order, improvement and humanity. Mrs. Canfield was one of those kind affectionate, tender-hearted, conscientious women of whom everybody else thinks better than they do of themselves. As brother A. H. Betts once said, one of those persons without hope, better than many professing christians.

The first sermon preached in the settlement was also at the house of Mr. Canfield. It was in January 1819, when there were but four families in the settlement—Dr. Heman Clark in addition to the first three. The meeting was conducted and the sermon preached by Rev. Lot B. Sullivan, a missionary on the Reserve. Mr. Canfield's family, and Doctor and Mrs. Clark were the singers on the occasion, and were ever after a great help in this part of wor-

ship. The tunes sung at that meeting were Windham, Mortality, and Florida. Mr. Canfield's lot first embraced the land afterwards owned and occupied by Justin Sherman, and his first improvement was made there. This he sold to Mr. Sherman and removed to the north part of his lot, building a log house, and subsequently a framed house wherein his grandson now lives. The first cabin put up was not far from the present residence of Mr. John Sherman. It was a room fourteen feet square, built of logs, and was the first family residence built in the settlement. It was still standing when I came in. Mr. Canfield soon built a larger and more convenient house near the same spot which he occupied till he sold out to Mr. Sherman. It was while living on this part of his lot that he and his eldest son were lost in the woods between that and Capt. Pierce's, and were out all night. The family had all been at Captain Pierces' through the day on some occasion, and at evening, as the weather was threatening, it was thought best to spend the night. Mr. Canfield thought somethings at home needed taking care of, and took his eldest son and started for home. A thunder storm arose and made it so dark he lost his way, and fearing that they should wander away into the woods farther from home, they stopped and bore the storm. Mr. Canfield with instinctive parental kindness, took the saddle from the horse and setting it up on sticks, made a shelter for his boy, who soon fell asleep in dry quarters, while the father bore the peltings of the storm, while they waited for morning.

The next building to Mr. Canfield's when I came was the school house. But we may not stop longer at that than to say that it was a small log building, and at that time served both as a place of teaching and a place of worship on the Sabbath In it I preached my first sermon which I preached in Wakeman. About a year after I came it was replaced by a comfortable framed school house which was also used as a place of worship alternately by the Congregational and Methodist churches. The new house had a kind of dedication by a service on Christmas Eve, accompanied with evergreens and illumination. It was a Union meeting. The services were conducted by Rev. True Pattee and myself. That meeting was only characteristic of the state of religious harmony which always existed between the two churches while I remained in the place. Without any special planning for union, we ever lived together in harmony.

The next family on the road was Justin Sherman. He came in Sept., 1822. When I came he was living in a substantial, well built framed house, painted white. He was himself a mechanic, and a man of influence in the community. He was the first Post Master. The office was kept at his house. It was established January 1st, 1833, on a route between Florence Corners and Ruggles. Mrs. Sherman had died since he came in, and before my arrival he had married a Mrs. Redding. That house is marked in my memory with a sad and solemn recollection. On the first Monday evening in April, 1832, as we were assembled at the school house for a monthly concert for prayer, Mr. Canfield was sitting by the door, he heard some unusual cry, and leaving the school house went into a burning fallow east of Mr. Sherman's, and soon returned to the door with the shocking annoucement, "Lewis Sherman is killed and burnt up in a log-heap." We all immediately left and went to the scene of alarm. Lewis, the eldest son of Mr. Justin Sherman, had been at work in his burning fallow, and

probably a tree burnt at the root, fell on him, and killed him by the side of a burning pile of logs. When he was found he had a bruise on his head which would have caused his death, and his body was sadly burned in his feet and lower limbs. The body was wrapped in a blanket and carried to his father's house, followed by a lonely widow, afflicted relatives, and sympathizing friends. The funeral was afterwards attended by Rev. True Pattee at the school house. But we must go on.

The next family and residence was Doctor Heman M. Clark. They were the fourth family in settlement, next to the first three, and equally honorable with the three. They came in about a year after Mr. Canfield. Dr. Clark was a practicing physician, as there was occasion, for practice; but he was too humane and generous to live by his profession. He traveled through the settlements on foot, ministering to the diseases of all, without regard to compensation. If they were able to pay it, he took a moderate fee; but went alike at the call of the rich or the poor, without expectation of reward.

The first school was taught in his house; Mrs. Clark was the teacher. He once went to join a mission among the Indians at Maumee, but did not remain long. I think their daughter, Hannah Maria, was the first person I ever baptised. The doctor settled on the south east corner of the cross roads, a mile north of the center line, and a mile from the township line west. The south west corner on the same cross roads was offered for a burying ground, and used to some extent for that purpose. But it was vacated, except a small lot enclosed by Mr. Justin Sherman. Some of the bodies were taken up, and removed to other grounds, but there still reposes there, some precious dust, undistinguished by mortal eyes from common earth yet not forgotten by Him who is the resurrection and the life. Among others, those two dear ones which were given to us at the house of Capt., Pierce. They died near together, at the ages respectively of four and two years, and were buried on that corner West of the Corners, between that and the township line, were two families. Sheldon Smith who came in the Autumn of 1819, and his father-in-law, Silas French, who came in the Spring following. Mr. French had a somewhat numerous family, among whom were a pair of twin daughters who so much resembled each other that few could distinguish them, and it was common when either of them was seen alone to speak of them as Jane Amanda French, thus giving both names to either indiscriminately. Both are since dead.

A little south of the Four Corners, and opposite the place of Dr. Clark was the residence and family of Barsillia S. Hendrick. He came also in 1819. Abraham Bronson, a brother-in-law of Mr. Hendrick, came in at the same time. Mrs. Hendrick had died before I came in; and not far from that time he was married again. He and his first wife, were among those who united in the organization of the first Congregational Church. Not far from the 1st of February 1830, as Mr. Hendrick was returning from a society's meeting at the center, his wife with him, who had been to make a call by the way,) by the wrecking of his sleigh, he received a fatal injury from which he died in less than twenty-four hours. He was not far from Mr. Merritt Hyde's, where he was carried in, and where he died. His body was brought home to his house, I think it was on Saturday, and his funeral was attended in the new school house on the Sabbath.

The next family was Philo Sher-

man, brother of Justin. They came in together. He and his wife were Methodists, and he was the class-leader. A man of quiet, meek, and christian temper, and his wife like him. His religion was in his life more than in many words. Nearly opposite was a building which I can not distinctly locate or fill. The most distinct recollection I have of it was, that it was the place where I attended the first Methodist meeting I attended in Wakeman.

The next habitation and family, was that of Amos Clark. He was a brother of Dr. Clark, and Mrs. Clark was a sister of Chester Manville. The next was Bela Coe. I must stop there a moment, to remark, it was the place where I stopped first when I returned from Conn., with my wife. It was the first time she had ever spent a night in a log house. She was from the midst of the ordinary accommodations and comforts of a Connecticut home. She had been somewhat accustomed to city life in New York. When we retired to our place of rest, which was nice and comfortable, but was in the corner of a log house, with a window of a few squares of glass set in the deep casement which the cutting out the piece of a large log made; she explored every nook and corner, and especially the deep window hole, to see if there were no bears or other wild animals lodged there. A little beyond Mr. Coe's were the Four Corners, made by the crossing of the west and center roads; and at the Corners on the north east, was the commencement of a frame house, being built by Isaac Hill. He with his family were living on the south west corner, in a log house, afterward the residence of Leverit Hill, his son. Isaac Hill was father-in-law to Mr. Coe. He was the first blacksmith in the settlement. The families came from Rootstown, Portage county. Leverit came first, about the time Chester Manville came. He made a clearing before his father's family came. The Spring after I came in, soon after I was installed Pastor of the church, Leverit Hill was married to Esther Strong, a sister of Cyrus Strong. The father soon moved into his frame house, and Leverit and his wife took possession of the log house. West of the Corners, on the center road was but one house, or family, that was Mrs. Parson's on the west township line. Her husband had committed suicide before I came. She afterwards married Ned Melona. South, on the Clarksfield road, half a mile from the Corners, was Samuel R. Barns. His wife was a sister of Capt., Pierce. Beyond this was the dismal swamp, known through all the region as Wakeman woods. No settlement beyond this till you came to Clarksfield.

East of the Corners, on the center road, the first family was Merritt Hyde. He came in May 1823. The Post Office was a few years at his house. A cross mail from Medina to Norwalk had been established, passing through on the east and west center road. A son of Mr. Hyde was killed by being thrown from a horse, Sept., 28, 1834, not far from Captain Joab Squires in Florence. North east from Mr. Hyde's about half or a quarter of a mile, and off from the road was Marshall Johnson and family. He came in as a hired man with Capt. Pierce. He was married to Marinda Bradley in October 1820. It was the first wedding in the settlement. The ceremony was performed by Rev. Nathan Smith, a Methodist Preacher, at the house of Abraham Bronson. So the first funerals and the first wedding were at the same house. Mr. and Mrs. Johnson had a numerous family, thirteen children. The next family east of Mr. Hyde, on

the center road, was Marcus French, son of Silas French. East of his lot a road ran south, may be half or three quarters of a mile, and there were Gusham Shelton and family. The next building east of Marcus French, on the center road, on the north side was a log school house, known as the center school house. It was also used as a place of worship, alternately with the north west school house. It was succeeded, I think in 1830, by a good substantial frame school house, with a stand which might make a desk for a teacher, or a pulpit for a preacher. Next to the school house, near the cross roads, where the east and west center road is intersected by the mill road, on the north west corner, were Burton French and family, brother of Marcus French. At the center, on the south west corner lot, was Justus Minor and family. He came in 1821, and first occupied the north west school house, till he could prepare a home at the center. Mrs. Minor died soon after their arrival, at the school house, she was buried at the center. Before the funeral a path was under-brushed from the school house to the center to prepare the way for the mournful profession. About two miles through the dense forest, the precious remains were borne to their resting place in midst of the woods. Before I came Mr. Minor had married Miss Delia Palmer from Fitchville. At the time father Minor settled at the center there was probably no settlement nearer than Dr. Clark's and Mr. Hendrick's. He brought with him an earnest zeal to establish religious institutions. He had lived through a painful strife and division in Woodbury Connecticut, growing out of the location of churches. His theory was that the center was the place for the church; and to secure it there, he planted himself there, and made all the arrangements in his own mind for carrying his theory out. As a proof of the solid conviction of his theory in his own mind, when his wife died, a few weeks after he came he had her carried and buried a few rods west of the center stake, on the border of ground he purposed for a cemetery. After I came as we were in the woods one day, a little east of the center, he showed me the minister's lot, and a beautiful site for a house, with a *sweet* spring ot water near by. His theory was beautiful, and had he the means he would have carried it out. But it died before him, and his very sincere attempt to avoid division before it should be made, came very near making a division which would have been difficult to heal. He practiced great self-denial, to carry out his theory; but providence did not favor it. The mill was fixed half a mile north of the center, and its attractions, and the ability of those who projected it, were too strong for his theory. The settlement increased about the mill faster than about the center; and ultimately the meeting houses fell between them.

But we must not leave father Minor and his family here. I have reason to remember them with much affection and gratitude. I spent much of the first winter I was in the settlement in his family. He had offered to board a minister a year, if they might have one. I did not indeed take up his offer literally, but I carried my trunk there, or rather he brought it there for me; there I had my study in the little bed-room which looked out on the garden; and there I heard many of the incidents of early settlement. When he first went in to chop, before he was familiar with the music of the forest, one night, hearing an owl, he supposed it was some person lost in the woods, and went out and

called, responsive to the cry, hoping to lead some lost wanderer to his hut. On one Sabbath, after they had made some improvement and were raising some stock, while the family had gone to meeting at the north western school house, he heard trouble about the hog-pen. He crept from his bed, took a gun that was in the house, and went forth to ascertain the difficulty. A bear was making love to his pigs. He loaded, and fired, and the bear fled. But he had not strength to follow. When, however, the family came home, they set the dog on the track, and they soon found bruin dead, having been mortally wounded by his shot. Soon after I came there, one evening about sunset, I heard the most unearthly sounds which had ever saluted my ears. It seemed like a strange commingling of all the discordant noises I had ever heard. Calves and dogs, and cats and horses, could hardly have made greater variety, or more discordant music. It was a pack of wolves, holding carnival a little east of the center, where some one had lately killed a deer, and left portions of the body behind, after dressing it. It was the nearest and most distinct that I ever heard a pack of wolves.

After I returned the second season, bringing my wife with me, we spent a few weeks at the same place, occupying the same room, while we were making preparation for house keeping. On the Sabbath, the meeting was at the center, and the traveling being muddy, they yoked up the oxen and put them to a cart, and the ladies rode to meeting in that style. Of course it was reported back to our friends in Conn. A sister of Mrs. Betts in reply says, now we know all about Ohio, if they ride to meeting in a cart. But the kind ness and delicacy of the hospitality made amends for all lack of style in the manner or furniture. The Mrs. Minor whom I found and left there was among the choice spirits of society Without disparaging any others, it was doubtless true, Mrs. Pierce and Mrs. Minor were among, and high among, the leading females of our church, if not of the community. Very unlike, in many respects, they were very much alike in their generosity, and hospitality. I have often remembered with gratitude their kindnesses, and have almost as often smiled, at the difference of their expressions, in the acts done, as characteristic of the two persons. One would bring in a piece of broad side pork, or a ham, or a pail of soap; the other would bring a fine chicken, nicely dressed, or a bowl of preserves or a plate of honey. All good, all useful in a family, all very benevolently given. I need not tell which gift came from which person. They both expressed the same love, they both drew forth the same gratitude. But we must leave father Minor; yet before leaving I must allude to a singular matrimonial connection in the family. There was a grand daughter of father Minor, who came later and joined the family, Eliza Curtis who used to call him grandpa; and a brother of Mrs. Minor who visited there, and used to call him brother Minor. In course of time the two became one, and father Minor became brother to his grand-daughter, and grand father to his brother Palmer.

The next family in order was Mr. Rufus Bunce. They occupied the north eastern center lot, and at that point the road began to angle a few degrees south of east probably to find a favorable crossing place over the Vermillion river. Mrs. Bunce had a sister living with her, whom we shall have occasion to notice soon. Between Mr. Bunce and the river was Cyrus Strong He

had also a sister living with them, Esther Strong, already mentioned as Mrs. Leveritt Hill. It was at Mr. Strong's that I performed my first marriage ceremony in the place, if not the first which I ever performed. The next family was across the river. Mr. Peter Sherman, and with him boarded Isaac Todd, who was making a clearing still beyond, which was the ultima-thule of improvement, in that direction. Mr. Todd afterwards married the sister of Mrs. Bunce, already mentioned, and settled on the improvement he was making. His twin brother Kneeland, soon coming in, subsequently married another sister of Mrs. Bunce, and settled with or near his brother Isaac. These brothers so strongly resemble each other as to be often confounded, and few could tell them apart. Even their wives did not always know them at once when coming in. There was in the family a strong resemblance. It was once happily, though in mournful circumstances, turned to good account. A son of one of the brothers died in the army, and was buried among the promiscuous slain. The father subsequently went to bring home the body. Two graves were found marked with the same name. They commenced disinterring one of the bodies, when a negro, who had aided in the burial, seeing the father, said, "I think that is not the right grave, the man who was buried in *this grave* looked very much like you, massa." The negro hint was regarded. They changed the place of digging, and found the body they sought.

Returning from this direction to the corner near Burton French, we follow that road south almost to Clarksfield line, and there find in the woods Lewis Beers; with one family beyond, Marcellus Booth. But in getting there, I might have mentioned, that Brandy Creek, on that road, was not yet passable, on account of its bold bluff bank on the north, and was shunned by horses and teams, by going around by Mr. Bunce's on the east road, and then returning south-west to find the road again. I remember it, because I once turned quite around in passing through the woods, and found myself going to Clarksfield when I intended to be returning. From Mr. French's corners north, was half a mile to Mr. James Wilson's. His house was on the west bank of the Vermillion river, and the mill, of which he was the miller on the other side, a few rods further south, or up stream. The river was already spanned by a substantial bridge, built a few years before. Mr. Wilson was one of natures noblemen. Without any special early advantages, he was intelligent; and without any thing to begin with, but his character and his prudence and industry, he was in possession of a good farm, considerably improved. For his intelligence he was very much indebted to his love of newspaper reading. He had much general, and especially, political information. His temperance experience is worth relating. At that time as a Home Missionary, I had sent to me a temperance paper, the Journal of Humanity, published at Andover, Mass. Knowing his love for newspapers, I was accustomed to hand it to him. Like all the rest, he was, as he regarded it, a moderate drinker, i. e. He kept his barrel of whisky in the house, took his drink before breakfast, then before dinner, and treated his friends freely as they called. In reading the paper, he found much said about persons becoming intemperate before they were aware of it. So much was said, that he resolved that he would know if he had an appetite formed. He resolved to

try it for one week, to do without it. He soon found he had no appetite for his breakfast without his morning dram. He then found a great craving for something at about eleven o'clock. He was soon convinced, that his appetite for intoxicating drinks was formed; and like a man of sense and resolution, as he was, he resolved to do without it; and he signed the total abstinence pledge. Not long after his stomach and head were cleansed of this evil spirit, the spirit of God came, and took possession; and he took his position among the people of God.

Another temperance converison might have been mentioned in passing, which took place the first winter I was in the settlement. It was one of those cases where Satan over-acts himself, and defeats his own work. During the winter of 1829, there was a deer hunt. A large tract was surrounded, and the driving in, was on the river bottom at the mills in Brownhelm. After the fray the hunters returned. The Wakeman, company called on their return, at the tavern at Florence Corners, cold and hungry; and, as custom was, took something to drink. One of the company, without thinking of his empty stomach, and chilled limbs, found himself unable to return any farther without being brought on a sled. When he became sober he sought the temperance pledge and signed it. It was Isaac Todd. That temperance pledge is historical; though what ever became of it I cannot tell. It was, probably, the first one in the county. At the meeting of the Presbytery of Huron, in Milan, January 1829, the subject of temperance was brought up and discussed; a resolution and pledge were adopted, and signed by most, or all, of the members present. I was then a new member of the Presbytery, and a kind of itinerant missionary; and the pledge was committed to me, to get signers. I brought it with me into Wakeman, and a Society was formed. I cannot give its history, but this was the origin of the pledge. I have known of none in the county before it. But we must cross the river a moment at the mill and then travel on. The Mills were known as Canfield and Pierce's Mills. There were at that time, a saw-mill, and a grist-mill. The saw-mill was built first. (But for particulars see Fire Lands Pioneer 1859.) Near by the Mills was a log house, which, at the time I came in, was occupied by Mr. John Brooks, living with the mother of Russel Barnes, whose husband was still living. By a little of that diplomacy, for which he was somewhat celebrated, he had led her to think she was released from her husband, and she consented to marry him. The connection was illegal, and after the necessary steps on the death of her husband, they were legally married, early in the summer of 1830. That wedding may be worth relating. Mrs. Barnes was a professing christian, and the church with which she was connected in Connecticut, called her to an account, through the church in Wakeman, for the manner in which she was living. She confessed her fault and relinguished her relation to Mr. Brooks, and just at the time she was restored to the church, intelligence came of the death of her husband. They had not lived together for a long course of years. After his death she was willing to live with Mr. Brooks if they were married. I applied to the Court and obtained a license for them. I called on them towards evening one day after a shower. They lived then where Mr. Camp since lives. She was in the house, and he was in the garden pulling weeds, or hoeing, with his pants and shirt sleeves rolled up for his business. He came in,

and I told him what I had done, and I was ready to unite them in marriage. I had taken witnesses with me. He thought they were married enough, but to satisfy her conscience he stood up as he was, and they were married and lived together happily.

The house at the Mill was the only habitation in that direction east of the river. Returning, at the north from Mr. Wilson's, about three quarters of a mile, on the River road, was Mr. Woodward Todd and wife, they were occupying an unfinished frame house. At Stone Brook, this road was met by the cross road from the west, which had passed by Dr. Clark's. At the junction of these two roads on the north east corner Nathan Downs had commenced an improvement, between Mr. Wilson's and Mr. Todd's. There was no family, building, or improvement, between Mr. Down and Dr. Clark. I must stop at Mr. Todd's for a little personal history. On my return the second season, with my wife, this was the house where we commenced our first housekeeping. After a few weeks among the different families, while we were making the needful preparations, we at length occupied, as a family, the front part of Mr. Todd's house, with privileges of cellar, kitchen, and chamber. From them we received nothing but kindness, while we were making our first experiments at domestic economy and family order. Here I would love to stop, and draw, if possible, a portrait of that truly excellent and noble woman whom I brought in with me, and who with me shared the labors, trials, joys, and afflictions of seven years pioneer life among you. I despair of doing justice to the picture, but I cannot forbear drawing some of the outlines. Endowed by nature with intelligence and eminent social disposition, yet restrained by a lovely female modesty, which a voided any obtrusion of her virtues, and early brought under the power of religious principle, which led her to take the place of duty at any sacrifice, she came into this new country with more sacrifice of feeling than most new-comers experience. She was the eldest daughter of a motherless family of children. She had some peculiar reasons for gloomy thoughts of Ohio; her family were near neighbors to the Seymour family, one of whom, Samuel Seymour, was killed by the Indians near the Huron river, within her distinct remembrance. Ohio was associated in her mind with snakes and Indians. She had felt that the last place she should choose for a residence would be Ohio. But when Providence pointed out the path of duty, she forsook all, and prepared to meet all, with a christian self-denial, and moral courage which was truly heroic. No one who had not access to her domestic and personal history, could have known the trial she went through, in her short residence among the privations and labors of a new country. The change from the comforts of a well furnished home, easy intercourse with society, and abundant religious privileges, to a solitary home, shut off by woods in every direction from neighbors, and on the Sabbath, either remaining alone in the woods or riding on an ox sled to meeting, it was a trial of her devotion, but it never found it faltering. Her earthly trials were heavenly discipline to her soul. As a wife, as a mother, as a neighbor, her christian principles always accompanied her conduct. Though called to pass through scenes of deep affliction, probably no one remembers a murmuring word, and in all her intercourse with this people, while we recieved, nothing but kindness to be remembered, she has probably left nothing here but consistency to be recalled. In respect to her domestic habits, it was

only her prudence and economy, and willing self-denial, which enabled us to live so comfortably as we did, while we were among you. One who knew her well, and who had often shared the hospitality of our board, said to me once, "Brother Betts, your wife with half the means will make double the comfort which some other housekeepers would make, while working in the midst of abundance." Her last end was beautifully sublime. On a Sabbath a few days before her death, I remained at home with her in the evening, after a communion season in the church at Lyme. Alluding to her spiritual state, she said to me, in substance, "If you and the church have had as pleasant a season in christian fellowship at the sacrament, as I have had in communion with my God and Saviour, it has been a profitable season" At the close, when inquired of with regard to her peace of mind, she replied in substance, "her work for eternity had been done long ago, and now she had nothing to do but die." As her soul departed, she closed her eyes with a force, which expressed a tear which stood on her face, as it lay quiet and beautiful, as touched by the angel of death. Some of the brethren from this place went out to Lyme to her funeral; but those whom I distinctly remember have since followed her in the way of all the earth, and I trust have entered with her into rest. I remember especially, Capt. Pierce and Mr. Wilson.

I would gladly stop here, but I may not, without visiting two more families in the settlement as it was when I first came. A short distance north of Mr. Todd's was the family and residence of Mr. Lucius Tomlinson; their house was immediately on the brow of the hill which descended to the river bottom. Still north of them, this bank curved to the east with the bend of the river, and at the distance of nearly half a mile, and back from the north road, was the family and residence of Mr. Erastus French. They had a numerous family of daughters. This was the last family in that direction.

This completes the physical and social geography of Wakeman, thirty-nine years ago. Those who have in imagination, gone over the ground with me, from point to point, with the present condition of roads, and farms, and buildings, in mind, will have but a faint impression of the map. Instead of your present well made roads, imagine swails crossed by long log ways; imagine deep mud holes, and shun paths, turning off into the woods; instead of large clearings, divided into convenient lots, imagine small improvements, fenced in with rails in front, and much of the rear with brush fence; instead of well fenced roads, open woods; and instead of well built, and elegantly painted houses, but four or five framed houses in the township; and then you may have some idea of what has been passing through the minds of the few early pioneers, while we have been taking this rambling view of this settlement in its early state.

The eight years of my residence here did not very much extend the boundaries of the settlement, though it did considerable towards increasing the population, in the part already open; and improving that which was begun. Frame buildings went up, in the place of log houses. New families came in, attracted by relatives already in the settlement. Lots were taken up, and occupied, between those which had been already improved; and in some instances improvements were sold, and new grounds taken up and opened. A few families pressed father out into the woods. The mill property was purchased by Mr. Jabez Hanford, who built a good

frame house near it while his son Edwin Hanford purchased and settled on a lot still east. Hiram Rumsey, a brother-in-law of Mrs. Bunce, after stopping a short time in the log house at the mill, took up land still east of Mr. E. Hanford. Mr. Rumsey was burned out. Erastus French sold his improvement to a Mr. Bostwick, and went still farther north. Families settled between Leverit Hill and Mrs. Parson's. Mr. Hall and afterwards Mr. Peck, went south of the farm where Mr. Russel Barnes after Mr. Peckham, and then Mr. Haskins lived, on the Clarksfield road. Captain Bell with his son Martin, both with families, went into the neighborhood of Isaac and Kneeland Todd, with whom there was some family connection. Mr. Wilson gave three acres of ground for a parsonage, on which, by the joint labors of the Congregational Society, and myself, a house was built, which Mr. Wilson subsequently purchased. A dwelling house was built on the west bank of the River, near by, opposite the mill, by Burton French, and occupied afterwards by a Mr. Tillinghast, who built a blacksmith's shop. On the same road, south of the center road, Brandy Creek was bridged, a saw-mill built near the bridge, and some families settled south of the Creek. Lewis Sherman, and Uncle John Brooks made improvements between Dr. Clark's and Nathan Down's improvement. Lemuel Pierce having married Eunice Burr, built east of the bridge, near where the rail road now crosses the River. A number of families went into the woods north of the mill, and made some openings, but made little progress. They were many of them addicted to intemperance, and they were sadly accommodated by a distillery established near the mill. It did not stand long, but long enough to work much evil in the families whose habits were inclined to drink. Among those families north of the mill, there were some persons, who, in different circumstances, might have been ornaments in society. I shall always remember a sentiment expressed by one of the ladies, whose husband was intemperate. Trying, as best I could, to minister instruction and comfort, in view of her trials; and endeavoring to urge patience, and submission to the providence of God,—she replied, with some earnestness, she felt as though she could submit to trials directly from the hand of God, without repining; but when she saw a wicked hand of man in it, it was difficult to submit. These families did not remain long; but the small improvements they had made were bought, I think by Minot Pierce, who married a niece of Mrs. Manville, Susan Curtis, and settled there.

Changes took place at the center. Father Minor, and his son Cyrus sold out to Mr. Bunce, father of Dr. Bunce, and both the Bunce families moved in, probably in 1834 or 1835. Some families settled between Burton French's & Mr. Wilson's. Woodward Todd sold to a Mr. Wheeler. C. C. Canfield, having married the daughter of Jabez Hanford settled where the mother of Eben Warner lived, when I came in, and another saw-mill was built east of his house, on Chapelle creek. Among the additional inhabitants, I may not forget Dr. Isaac Curtis. He was the father of the second wife of Isaac Hill, and came in with her I think in the fall or winter of 1829, or 1830. He was a revolutionary soldier; an intelligent man, especially on religious subjects. I shall never forget his examination, on admission to the church. Understanding something of the habit of his mind, I left him to give his own account of his religious views. He commenced, and gave one of the most clear, con-

nected, and practical exhibitions of christian faith and practice, which I ever heard. But he was subject to sad seasons of spiritual darkness from a hypocondriacal temperament. It was sad to dwell in the house with him at those times. I remember a remark of his daughter. She pitied a dog, who dwelt in the house with a hypocondriac. But in his lucid moods, he was a cheerful, consistent christian.

There were two or three seasons of special religious interest while I was here. As I have no record of them, the impressions are not distinct in my mind. A few were gathered in soon after I settled, without any special meetings. A few years after, a meeting, of considerable interest, was held several days, at the center school house. If I remember, the subjects of grace, at that time, were received to the church subsequently at a communion season held in Dr. Clark's unfinished barn. The last special meeting was held under the tent; conducted by Prest. Mahan. I left not many months after the meeting, and may not be qualified to give the history of its results. I have neither head or heart to trace the ecclesiastical changes which have taken place here. For the organization of churches, and the building of houses of worship, I refer to the article already alluded to in the Fire Lands Pioneer. For later history, we must look to the observation and memory of younger inhabitants. I rejoice in the marks of worldly prosperity manifest, and in the evidence of a regard to the interests of the cause of Christ.

A grateful tribute of respect is due to the early settlers, for the character for enterprise, intelligence, and morality, which your place sustains. The early settlers were active, industrious men, stirring and thorough. A man riding rapidly, was said to be "riding on a Wakeman trot." As evidence of intelligence, the settlement furnished many school teachers for adjoining townships. Our schools were early taught by persons some of whom were subsequently distinguished in public life. Among them J. M. Root, Esq., afterwards a member of Congress; also B. B. Judson, afterwards a minister of the gospel. The Sabbath was early regarded. Hunting on the Sabbath was considered contrary to the habits of the settlement. The report of a rifle was noticed as a disorder among them. They were a people who went to meeting on the Sabbath, from the beginning. Some remember well when children, walking up to Florence to meeting. One Sabbath, Lemuel Pierce and his brother were going in this way, leading their sister, now Mrs. Dr. Johnson, and they walked directly over a rattlesnake, without seeing it till they had passed.

Snake stories might be told to any extent. There was a hole in the rocks by the side of the river, not far from the mouth of Stone Brook, where in the spring of the year great numbers were found. They were killed more or less on my place while I lived there, and at one time I found a young one in my front room. The greatest destruction ever made among them at one time, was probably by C. C. Canfield, Lemuel Pierce, and another person, (name not remembered.) They were at work, not far from the bank of the river. As they were resting with their hoes they discovered several large rattlesnakes on a bank sunning themselves. They succeeded in killing them. They were females, and on killing them the young ones crawled forth, making about sixty in all. There was some foundation in facts for a little dread of snakes in the new comers, in the early settlement.

Such, my dear hearers, were your ancestors; and such the circum-

stances of their pioneer life. But what do I now behold before me? Instead of the fathers, have come up the children, and these bringing their children, and even their children's children with them. See that you honor your ancestors by handing down, safe and improved, the privileges they have given you, at so much toil and labor. You stand on vantage ground for great good for the future. Dare to do right. Fear God, and honor your parents; and may His blessing rest upon you.

NOTES ON THE ORGANIZATION OF PERKINS TOWNSHIP.

BY AMOS FELT.

In looking over the account of the organization of the Township of Perkins, by Judge Parish, I see several mistakes and several omissions (§) that ought to be corrected.

The first and second sections of the Township were mainly settled by John Beatty, and a colony he brought with him from Connecticut. These colonists were of the true Yankee stripe, and were mostly Methodists in their religious tenets. They laid the foundation of a respectable and wealthy neighborhood. They early turned their attention to schools and meetings; although some of them afterward had considerable difficulty with Mr. Beatty about the title to their lands.

The third section was settled by John Dillingham in the fall of 1815. Soon after, a man by the name of Sanford Silva settled on the third lot north of Mr. Dillingham. He died there in 1819. His family, a few years afterwards moved up the creek into the fourth section, and from there to Sandusky county.

In the fourth section, I think Thomas James must have been the first settler, being there before the war of 1812, and was probably the first settler in the Township.

About 1815, some three or four families, by the names of Shippy and Sprague made some improvements and built log houses on the west side of the creek (Pipe) about half way between Dillingham and James. One of them built near the large Sulphur Springs. They stayed but a year or two.

In the Spring of 1819, a Mr. Rogers came from the State of New York, with his family, and moved into the log house that Sprague built near the Sulphur Spring. He and four of his children died there in the summer and fall of the same year.

In Nov. 1817, Justus Allen came on with a large family and took up the lot next north of Mr. Dillingham, and built a hewed log house, and

§ See vol. 6, p. 15. Mr. Felt is undoubtly correct in his account of the elections. The account in vol. 6, was given on the authority of Julius House Esq., on hearing the statement of Mr. Felt, he concedes his entire accuracy.

the next year a framed barn, and then opened a tavern. He died there in the fall of 1820. In Dec. 1817 the settlers built a log school house a little north of Allen's and Curtis Allen (a. son of Justus) taught school there two winters in succession. Mary Silva taught the first summer school there.

In the Spring of 1817, William Watkins came on with his family and bargained with Beatty for considerable land in the fourth section, and moved into one of the Sprague houses. He afterwards bargained for the saw-mill, at the head of the rapids of Pipe creek about two miles from Sandusky City. He built a frame house and planked it, and lived in it some two years. In the fall of 1819 he, in company with a young man by the name of Fairchilds, broke open the store of Jennings & Darling, and stole a trunk said to contain about one thousand dollars, belonging to the Schooner Michigan, or to the Transportation Company, in which she was employed. The next Spring he left for the Wabash country. He was brought back however, in the winter of 1821. After lying in jail several months, he was tried but got clear; some said that it was Masonry that cleared him.

The causes that led to the organization of the township, and its separation from Oxford (township) were these. The elections and town business were held and done at Bloomingville. This caused the Perkins folks to go from four to five miles to do their town business, and as true Yankees they thought time was as good as money.

They did not like to be called off so far away, and they concluded to let the Oxford people know that they were the strongest party; and that they might have the town divided, or might some day come to them. About the 1st of June 1817 there was to be a Justice of the Peace elected. A night or two before the election, the Yankees got together and nominated Julius House for their candidate, and on the day of the election every voter went to the polls and elected him over Ephraim Johnson, the Bloomingville candidate. The Oxford people saw then that they could be outnumbered, and were willing for a division of the township.

In October 1817 an election was held in the log school house near Jesse Taylor's. I was there on business, not having been in the State long enough to be a voter. John Beatty and Richard P. Christopher were the clerks, John Freese, Julius House, and, I think, Eleazur Lockwood were the Judges. In the spring of 1818, the township election was held in the same school house; John Beatty was township Clerk, Eleazur Lockwood, John Freese, and Julius House, Trustees, Wm. R. Beebe and Roswell Hubbard, Constables, John Dillingham, Harvey Covel, fence viewers, the others I do not recollect. Oliver Watkins, Supervisor of highways for the Pipe Creek District.

The next township election, that of 1819, was held at the house of Justus Allen, on Pipe Creek. Justus Allen was elected township Clerk, Cyrus W. Marsh, Julius House and Roswell Eddy, Trustees, Asa Wickham and Amos Fenn, Constables, and Lyman Farwell Justice of the Peace. The Treasurer, I think, was John Beatty; Amos Felt Supervisor of highways for the Pipe Creek District. The next year the same were principally re-elected. Zina Rhodes was elected Supervisor of highways for the Pipe Creek District.

In 1821 the election was held in Sandusky City, Wm. Kelley was elected township Clerk, Cyrus W. Marsh, Moors Farwell and Julius House, Trustees, and I think at this election, Hector Kilbourne was elect-

ed Justice of the Peace; Daniel Newton Constable, which office he held for several years.

At the time Perkins was set off from Oxford, the fractional township, now called Portland was added to Perkins.

The first Justice of the Peace that officiated in Sandusky City was a man by the name of Stephen Crippen. He had been elected and commissioned while living in Oxford, and moved into Sandusky City, then called Portland, or the Ogontz place, before the townships were divided. He claimed that his office held good there, and we all said "so mote it be," though some demurred behind his back. I think he married the first couple that was married in Portland. The marriage took place at the house of Jonas Gibbs, and we had a jolly time of it. The groom was more than double the age of the bride. She was about 15 years old, her name was Hannah Watkins, and his was Bancroft. They lived but a few months together, he left for parts unknown, and she, after living in one place and another, went off South with a former beau by the name of John James. How long they lived together I do not know.

EARLY LAKE HISTORY.

Facts concerning the early navigation of our inland waters are always perused with interest. A few years since was published a brief account of the first vessel that crossed Lake Erie, and her career, which was a short-lived one. This vessel was called the "Griffin," was built in 1679, at Erie, then called Fort Frontinae, by Robert de La Salle, her commander. This vessel sailed on September 18th, in that year for Green Bay, having on board among other passengers, Father Louis Hennessin, a missionary. On her arrival at Green Bay she took on a cargo of furs, and while on the return passage was lost in Lake Huron with all on board. She was 60 tons burthen, and was fore-and-aft rigged. We copy from the Detroit Tribune:

Previous to the appearance of this vessel the lakes were navigated only by birch bark canoes. In 1766 four vessels plied upon Lake Erie. These were the Gladwin, Lady Charlotte, Victory and Boston.

The two latter laid up in the fall near Navy Island above Niagara Falls, and one of them was burned, accidentally, November 30th of the same year. A vessel called the Brunswick, owned and commanded by Capt. Alexander Grant, made her appearance on the lakes, during the year 1767, and was lost during the season following. Capt. Grant was the Commodore of the lakes for two or more years. In 1769 Sterling and Porteous built a vessel at Detroit, called the Enterprise, Richard Cornwall of New York, being the carpenter. The boatmen who went from Schenectady with the rigging and stores for this vessel to Detroit, were each to have £20, and ten gallons of rum. They were 70 days on Lake Erie, and two of the number per-

ished from hunger,and their bodies were kept several days to decoy eagles and ravens. They returned to New York in February, 1870, by the way of Pittsburgh, then called Fort Pitt.

In May, 1770, a vessel of 70 tons burthen was launched at Niagara, called the Charity. The same year the Duke of Gloucester, Secretary Townsend, Samuel Tutchet, Henry Baxter, and four others formed a company for mining copper ore on Lake Superior. In December they built at Point Aux Pins, some nine miles from Sault St. Marie, a barge, and laid the keel for a sloop of 40 tons burthen. Of the success of this enterprise we are not informed. Subsequent to the above period but very little was accomplished in the construction of craft for the lake navigation and the few that came into commission were used only as traders, as were in fact all those previously named. A short time after 1770, batteaux from Montreal and Quebec, employed by the Hudson's Bay Fur Company made their annual tours westward, gathering large quantities of furs and returning homeward in the fall. It has been stated that the first vessel built on Lake Ontario was in 1789, but this, we have reason to believe, is not correct.

THE LAST REVOLUTIONARY SOLDIER. —The McConnellsville Herald announces the death of John Gray, supposed to be the last surviving soldier of the American Revolution. It occurred at the residence of his daughter, near Hiramsburg, Noble county, Ohio, February 29th 1868. Mr. Gray had just completed his 104th year, having been born in 1764. He has not been on the pension list until a year or two ago, not possessing the prescribed proofs of his military service. It having come to the knowledge of the Congressman of his district that Mr. Gray was in necessitous circumstances, and that there was no doubt of his having served in the closing years of the Revolution, an annuity of $500 per annum was settled upon him.

THE OLD-FASHIONED CHOIR.

BY B. F. TAYLOR.

I have fancied sometimes, the Bethel-bent beam
That trembled to earth in the patriarch's dream,
Was a ladder of Song in the wilderness rest,
From the pillar of stone to the blue of the Blest,
And the angels descending to dwell with us here,
"Old Hundred," and "Corinth," and "China," and "Mear."

All the hearts are not dead, not under the sod
That those breaths can blow open to Heaven and God!
Ah, "Silver Street" leads by a bright, golden road—
O, it is not the hymns that in harmony flowed—
But those sweet human psalms in the old-fashioned choir
To the girls that sang alto—the girls that sang air!

"Let us sing in His praise," the minister said,
All the psalm-books at once fluttered open at "York;"
Sunned their dotted wings in the words that he read,
While the leader leaped into the tune just ahead,
And politely picked out the key-note with a fork
And the vicious old viol went growling along
At the heels of the girls in the rear of the song.

I need not a wing—bid no genii come,
With a wonderful web from Arabian loom,
When the world was its rythm, and life was its rhyme;
Where the streams of the years flowed up noiseless and narrow.
That across there floated the song of a sparrow;
For a sprig of green caraway carries me there,
To the old village church and the old village choir.

When clear of the floor my feet slowly swung,
And timed the sweet praise of the song as they sung,
Till the glory aslant from the afternoon sun
Seemed the rafters of gold in God's temple begun!
You may smile at the nasal of old Deacon Brown,
Who followed by scent till he ran the tune down;
And the dear sister Green, with more goodness than grace,
Rose and fell on the tunes as she stood in her place,
And where "Coronation" exultingly flows,
Tried to reach the high notes on the tips of her toes!
To the land of the leal they went with their song,
Where the choir and the chorus together belong.
O, be lifted, ye gates! Let me hear them again—
Blessed song, blessed Sabbath, forever amen!

AUTOBIOGRAPHY OF JOHNSON WHEELER.

The Wheeler family were quite numerous in New England as early as the middle of the seventeenth century. Farmer, the historian, says that forty families of the name resided in Concord, Massachusetts, between the years 1640 and 1680. They were an athletic and vigorous race of men, much given to manly sports.

John Wheeler of Concord, moved to Fairfield, Connecticut, in the year 1644, and was a pioneer in the settlement of that town. His son, John Wheeler, removed to Stratford in Fairfield county, where he lived more than a score of years, helping to make the wilderness bud and blossom; when with his two sons, Thomas and John, and several daughters, he removed to Woodbury and was one of the signers of the fundamental articles for the settlement of the new colony. John Wheeler of Stratford died in Woodbury, May 12th 1704. Thomas and John, his sons, married sisters, daughters of Benjamin Stiles. John, my great grandfather, and his wife Ruth had ten children, sons and daughters. He died in Woodbury, May 19th 1727. Samuel Wheeler, my grandfather was born in 1712, and settled in the south west part of the colony now in the town of Southbury, and died in 1792. Johnson Wheeler, my father, a son of Samuel, was born July 4th 1754, and always lived on the farm previously owned by his father, till his death, which took place May 10th, 1829.

Johnson Wheeler the writer, was born April 13th, 1797.

Passing over my early history to manhood, in 1820, I married Sally Burr of New Milford. For two or three years we lived on, and managed a part of my father's farm. Several of our neighbors had purchased lands in New Connecticut, as the north east part of Ohio was called and had moved west with their families. Among the number was Capt. Amial P. Pierce, Dr. Joel Crane, A. Canfield, S. Bristol and others. Most of them had settled on the Fire Lands in the Township of Wakeman. The intelligence from them was rather favorable, and we concluded to break ground and try our luck in the wilderness. On the 7th of October 1823, we started on our journey with a three horse team and wagon. It was too late in the season to start on so long a journey; the weather, however, continued favorable, and the roads were good till we arrived in the vicinity of Buffalo, when the rainy season commenced. The roads up the lake which were bad enough in dry weather, now became almost impassible which made the balance of our journey slow and tedious. At Buffalo we fell in company with a Mr. Kent and family moving to Ashtabula. This proved to be a mutual help to both parties, for we had to double teams every day, and some days more than once in order to get through the deep mud holes.

At Ashtabula we parted with our friend Kent and family not without regret, as we had stood by each

other through many muddy trials. The soil now was more sandy, consequently the road was much improved from what it had been, and we experienced no delay or trouble in reaching Painsville. At this place we found a cousin, Wheeler Sperry, and stopped at his house two days. He followed teaming and I went with him down to Fairport; the wind was blowing fresh from the Lake and I suppose I must have taken the chills and fever, as my health began to fail from that time. Though quite unwell when we left Painsville, I was in hopes to get better or at least to hold out till we should arrive at our journey's end, but instead of getting better I got worse every day. About five miles west of Elyria we got stuck in a huge mud hole, I went forward to a house, it belonged to Mr. Whiting, the county Clerk of Lorain. He had a large yoke of oxen with which he kindly assisted us through to Smith's Tavern, where we put up too sick to go further. Here I engaged Mr. Crandal to take one of my horses and go through to Wakeman and inform my friends of my situation. Early the next morning, Capt. Pierce with Doctor Baker arrived. I was very sick, and had fainted away in trying to rise from bed. The landlady a large fleshy red faced woman, discharged a half pail full of water in my face and bosom which soon made me gasp for breath. The Doctor examined my pulse and tongue and with an emphatic shake of the head said, "It is no place for you here, you must go through to Wakeman if possible." It was the 19th of November, and about six inches of snow had fallen during the night, which made it better sledding than going on wheel. So Capt. Pierce borrowed a sled of one of the neighbors, put a wagon box on it, and with hay and our bedding made a comfortable couch for a sick man on which they placed me, and in this manner I made my (entrance) upon the Fire Lands. At Capt. Pierce's hospitable mansion I received every attention necessary and under the medical treatment of Dr. Baker my fever soon abated, though it was several weeks before I was able to visit around the settlement.

I found a ready market for my horses and wagon and took in exchange as part pay, such articles of provisions &c., as we should need, also a cow.

There was a vacant house in Townsend near the Wakeman line and I got permission to occupy it and moved there in January 1824. It was without windows or upper floor, and the lower floor was made of puncheons in a rough state. The roof was good and the body was well pointed, or plastered up with clay. The former occupant Mr. E. Ellis had left a bedstead made of round poles corded with bark and a coarse home-made table. We took possession of these necessary articles of furniture and commenced pioneer life. There were about three acres partially cleared around the house which had been planted with corn and beans, that still remained unharvested, and about twenty acres adjoining, that had been slashed into rows, the fire having passed through a part of it burning out the brush and small timber.

There was no other inhabitant at the time but myself and wife in the north east quarter of the township; in the south east quarter three families had just commenced living, Wm. Purdy, J. Waldron, and N. Ordway. In the north west quarter there was a small settlement made up of the Millimans, Kelloggs, Miller, Burdue, and two or three others. In the south west quarter was the Barber settlement, which gave character to the town-

ship. It was a purely christian community. The Barber brothers, four families I think, were of the close communion order, and wanted to exclude the world's people as Deacon Barber expressed himself to the proprietor, Mr. Townsend, when they bargained for the land. "We don't want you to sell land to every one, to have them come to be among us; we want to have it a christian settlement."

Mr. Wm. Townsend, one of the proprietors of the township, had put up a block house at the center of Townsend, and brought on a small stock of old goods from Sandusky about the time I became, a resident in the township. I saw him often, and he was anxious to sell me land. After considerable conversation on the subject, I contracted for the lot I lived on, and the lot adjoining on the south, Lots 62 and 84, and agreed to furnish him a certain number of axes, scythes, hoes, and other useful articles of husbandry in payment for the land. In order to fulfill on my part, I found it would be necessary to make a journey to Connecticut the next Autumn and made my calculations accordingly. In the Spring I occupied part of my time in making maple sugar, and the balance in fixing up my house. The Summer I spent in making improvements on the place. Deer and turkies were plenty in the country at that time and I occasionally tried my luck with the rifle. The first time I went out with the gun, only a few days after I settled on the place, I had the good luck to kill a noble fat doe. The tallow supplied us with candles during the winter and the venison was just what we needed at the time.

In September we returned to Connecticut, not as they travel now by rail through in twenty-four hours, but in a one horse wagon, occupying nearly a month's time. We had a pleasant journey arriving safely and finding our friends well. I engaged my brother-in-law Mr. James C. Judson, now a resident of Florence, Erie county Ohio, to assist me in making up my contract, he being a blacksmith and cutler by trade. I went to work in the shop with him, and spent about five months very agreeably, Vulcan like before the forge and anvil. My wife went home to her father's where my eldest son was born February 6th, 1825. During the winter Mr. John Burr my father-in-law, with his family got the western fever, and concluded to sell out and go to Ohio with us in the spring. Messrs. Burton, Canfield and Judson Blackman had the agency of selling land in Wakeman, and he made a trade with them for his farm, taking wild land in Wakeman in part payment. On the 10th of May we were all ready for our journey. We had engaged teams to haul our effects to Poughkeepsie where we shipped to Albany on a sloop, and then went on the Canal to Buffalo, with but a short portage at Lockport. At Buffalo we took passage on a schooner to Sandusky, where we arrived on the 1st of June. Here I found Mr. Townsend and delivered to him the bill of tools, agreeably to contract which proved satisfactory. At Sandusky we engaged Mr. George Bolt and a Mr. Spicer to carry us through to Townsend, and arrived at my place June 3d, 1825. As an efficient pioneer I had not only returned myself, but had induced some of my friends to accompany us, with the prospect of being followed by many others, which has since been realized.

Mr. Burr purchased a farm in Florence soon after our arrival, and bettered his situation very materially by moving west which was gratifying to me as myself and wife were instrumental in effecting this movement on his part.

Nothing material happened through

the summer except the same routine of hard work common in new timber countries. Every settler was busy clearing land for future crops. Logging and burning off fallows seemed to be the order of the day. The early settlers generally joined work in piling logs as it required a gang of hands to do it to advantage. Sometimes one would invite hands, cook an extra dinner and have a jug of whisky, but it was not very common in our neighborhood. When they did do it they generally divided the hands into gangs and worked on a strite to see who could effect the most, by so doing they made a good thing of it.

Wolves were quite plenty among us and scarcely a night passed over that we could not hear them in some quarter.

One of them, an old leader, appeared to have an impediment in his voice so much so that every person in the settlement noticed his peculiar howl, and would often speak of it, and my eccentric neighbor Mr. Smith, gave him the name of old brindle. In the fall of 1825 I had been to Sandusky in a wagon with a friend from Connecticut, and in returing home I concluded to leave him at the old school house, and grave yard, east of where Deacon Fuller then lived in Eldrige, and walk home by short cut, my friend was intending to stop at Florence. It was about sun down when we parted and I had nearly five miles to go mostly through the thick woods with only a blind track, the underbrush having been partially cut two or three years before. I passed Thomas Harris's place at the south line of Eldridge, just as it began to get dark, and had two and a half miles yet to go—all woods. Just before I arrived at Old Woman's Creek, old Brindle gave one of his most terrific howls, right in front of me, soon another answered him in my rear, then one at my right and still another at my left, which was repeated every few moments till they all got together and followed behind me, still howling at intervals, sometimes so near me I could hear them crack the brush with their feet. I felt a little "skeery," as the Hoosiers say, and walked as fast as I could, but the faster I went the nearer they came to me, and finally as I came near my clearing it appeared they intended to flank me by getting ahead, this last move of theirs started me into a run, and when I entered the open ground they were abreast on both sides. I was then safe as they did not follow me into the clearing but passed around to the south, making the night hideous with their infernal howlings. Five minutes more brought me to my door where I met Mrs. Wheeler and her sister, now Mrs. Benjamin Summers, who were out listening to the music. They could hardly believe I had been the cause of the serenade so vociferously conducted for the last half hour. The wolves were evidently disappointed, as they did not cease their howling till after midnight.

The different settlements in Townsend, were so distinct from each other that very little intercourse or sociability existed between them. Election days were the only times that they had occasion to meet together. The exclusive characteristics of our Barber neighbors had a tendency to keep them isolated from the world, and even the young stock adhered to the prevailing custom of their progenitors, and kept aloof from their neighbors, and cousins intermarried with cousins. I remember once when a double wedding of Barbers came off, that the hymenial notice in the Norwalk *Reporter* was headed, "Barber-ous times in Townsend."

The masculine portion of the community, including men and boys,

generally attended the election as a holiday, and you would see them drop in from all quarters rifle in hand. As but few votes were polled, we had plenty of time to try our skill shooting at a target, playing ball, wrestling, and other sports. But fifteen votes were polled when I first came into the township, but increased to forty-five while I remained there.

At the Presidential election when General Jackson was elected President, the two political parties in town were arrayed against each other in a grand wrestling match. It was a close contest, but the administration party prevailed. Some considered the circumstance ominous at the time, and boasted, which came very near causing a fight. If neighbor Milford's stock of whisky had not failed, I think the belligerant parties might have come to blows.

I resided in Townsend nearly seven years and represented the north east quarter of the township alone, nearly all the time. A Mr. Middleton did move in before I left, but he lived as far away as possible. I occupied the south east corner, and he the north west. My family was increasing and my two oldest children were nearly old enough to attend school, but no opportunity offered within reasonable distance. There was a school in Wakeman about two miles away, mostly through the woods, which was too far to send small children, so I concluded to change my place of residence. An opportunity soon offered to trade for the Barnum Mills and farm in the east part of Clarksfield, then in possession of Asa Wheeler. After considerable negotiation we effected a trade, and I moved there in December, 1830. There was quite a settlement in the neighborhood of the Mills, sufficient to support a school, which was my main object in changing situations.

I continued my residence in Clarksfield till the Autumn of 1835, and in company with my brother carried on a store and farm, run the grist-mill and saw-mill, built a distillery, and run that, and among the multiplicity of business came very near running ourselves under. Selling goods on a credit and making whisky, did not prove to be just what we expected; so we backed off the best we could. I felt sorry to leave my neighbors, and shall ever hold in remembrance the social and friendly relations that existed between myself and Messrs. Aaron Rowland, Smith Starr, Ezra Wood and others.

I removed from Clarksfield to Florence in November, 1835, where I lived over ten years. Part of the time I kept a house of entertainment for travelers, carried on a farm and grindstone manufactory. I had a large family on my hands, and I found it difficult to more than support them from year to year, and live up to the motto. I had helped to settle one new country, and made up my mind to try it again for the benefit of my children; and in the summer of 1846, after a residence of over twenty years on the Fire Lands, I removed to Lake County, Indiana.

Lake county is the north west corner county in the State, and at the time I took up my residence there, it was comparatively new. Crown Point, the county seat, is situated forty miles south east from Chicago, the great western metropolis, which at that time numbered only eighteen thousand inhabitants. Great improvements have been made in the west since that date, and the City now numbers over two hundred thousand. The Chicago and Great Eastern Rail Way runs through Crown Point, traversing the county diagonally from north west to south east.

I worked at farming for three or

four years, not to very good advantage, as produce was very low and money scarce. Pork only brought two dollars per cwt. In the mean time the gold placers in California were discovered, and like many others, I dreamt of nuggets of solid gold, and piles of shining dust. I thought as I was getting somewhat advanced in years, it would be the last and only chance for me to recuperate financially, and replenish my empty coffers. Accordingly in the Spring of 1850, with other adventurers, I left for the Eldorado on the over land route.

In crossing the plains many things transpired worthy of note; the narrator joined in a buffalo hunt, visited lots of Indian camps and lodges, and came to the conclusion that they had had their day, and must eventually give place to a more laborious class of inhabitants, that would till the soil for a livelihood, as the territory required to support one Indian family in their nomadic way of living, would give adequate support to fifty times their number of industrious Germans.

The company to which I was attached made a halt at Salt Lake City from the first to the sixth of July, which gave me an opportunity to visit old acquaintances and neighbors from Florence—Mr. Moses Daly and wife. I called on them and remained over night. They seemed pleased, and treated me to the best the new settlement afforded. In answer to inquiries I made respecting the many wife system of the Mormons, he said polygamy was practiced by some of the leaders but the practice was not general. "You see I live with my old wife the same as I did in Ohio." He tried hard in a conversation of several hours to convert me to the faith, but I was not convertible just then.

After a tedious journey around the north side of Salt Lake, across the great interior basin, and over the snow clad mountains, we arrived at the diggings in California on the fifteenth of August. It was a hard journey for me, I had taken the mountain fever in crossing the Sierra, and it left me in a weak debilitated state from which I did not recover, but grew worse from week to week. By the advice of Dr. Teegardner, of Mansfield, Ohio, who I found in Sacramento City, I left for home after a stay of about three months in the gold region. I took passage on a ship at Panama, crossed over the Isthmus and sailed on a Brig to New Orleans, came up the Mississippi and Ohio rivers to Madison on a steamboat, from there to Indianapolis by rail road, and the balance of the way home in an open stage. When I arrived at home I was so worn out and exhausted that I had to be carried from the wagon to the house. Thus ended my speculation after gold. I had reached home minus the nuggets and shining dust.

My health continued very poor for nearly two years, but I finally regained my usual state, though considerably broken down in my ambition. I had concluded not to make haste to get rich any more, but to take things quietly as they were presented. For several years I officiated as Engineer in draining the swamp hands of Lake county, assisted by my eldest son John.

In September, 1858, my wife was taken sick and died, my five daughters were all married, and I was left alone to keep house with no one except my son Oliver who was yet a minor. In October, 1859, I was married again to a Miss Pinney, a resident of Townsend, Ohio, near where I had spent my first years of pioneer life. I was next engaged for a year or two in mercantile business, depending upon my two sons

for assistance. John had published a weekly newspaper in Crown Point for two or three years, and on the breaking out of the rebellion, in response to the call of the President, raised a company of volunteers and was elected Captain. The company was attached to the 20th Regiment. Oliver was also anxious to go to the war, so I disposed of my stock of merchandize and he enlisted in the 73d Regiment. After the battle of Stone River, in which, he participated, his health failed and he was finally prostrated with the typhoid fever, and was placed in the hospital at Murfreesboro. I went to him and took care of him for fifteen days. A dozen or more soldiers were in the same room, all sick with the fever. The atmosphere was bad, and I became sick myself, and left for Indiana, my son being a little better; I succeeded in reaching home, went to bed immediately, where I was confined nearly three months.

July 4th, 1863, was a joyous day in our household, I had so far recovered as to be able to walk across the room, and my friends took me out for a short ride in a buggy. Oliver had got well enough to travel, and had arrived home on leave of absence. It seemed as if we were to be blessed again with health and happiness. My daughters and friends came in to rejoice with us. Little did we anticipate the sad news of the morrow.

The mail on the 5th brought the news that John was killed at the battle of Gettysburg. He had participated in all the battles in Gen. McClellan's retreat from the Chickahominy, had his horse shot under him at the second Bull's Run battle where his Colonel was killed. He also fought at Chantilla, at Fredericksburg and Chancellorville. He had been promoted to the post of Colonel and had command of the Regiment at the time of his death. A rifle shot passed through his neck, severing the jugular vein and parting the spine. He fell from his horse dead without a struggle. The Masons and Odd Fellows (he being a member of both orders,) had his remains brought to Crown Point, where his burial was attended by a very large assemblage, for he was a general favorite with all.

It was a heavy stroke for me in my weak condition. I was enabled however, to endure it, and continued to improve in health as fast as could be expected under so great a calamity. I have since been able to do some business, though but little, for the last year. I have lived out my three score and ten years, and the prospect is that ere long it will require but a short chapter to finish up my Biography.

THE CAHOON PIONEER CELEBRATION.

In accordance with time-honored custom the 10th of October, 1867, was celebrated in North Dover, at the residence of Mr. Joel B. Cahoon. The day was propitious and the attendance large. Organization was perfected by the choice of Dr. Kirtland as Moderator of the day and Rev. E. P. Ingersoll as Secretary. After a sumptuous dinner, provided by the venerable host and his estimable lady, it was resolved that we turn to the "feast of reason and flow of soul," upon which the Secretary read the following record of the Cahoon family which settled in Dover in the year 1810:

Since our last meeting there have been two marriages, three births, and two deaths. Two of the births being great great grandchildren. Four of the original family are still living; forty grandchildren, 54 great grandchildren, and three great great grandchildren.

Toasts were then offered as follows:

1st. "Our host and hostess. They have fought the battle of life bravely, their mission is nearly accomplished, and their sun is far down in the horizon. May it set clear and tranquil, and their spirits be escorted by angels "across the river" into perfect and perpetual peace." Response by Rev. E. P. Ingersoll.

2d. "Our country—its past, present, and future" Response by Rev. H. Hall.

3d. Presented by Mr. W. O. Cahoon, "The Pioneers who have met with us to-day, 'May their shadows never be less.' We welcome them and our many friends to our annual meeting. Response by Dr. Kirtland.

4th. Offered by Thomas Cahoon, "The Days and Roots of Sheffield. May the former never be less, and the latter never be shorter." Response by Mr. W. Root.

5th. Offered by W. O. Cahoon. "To the young Samsons of the Tribe of Joseph. May you be valiant men, and never be shorn of your locks by the fair daughters of the Philistines." Response—a quartette song entitled "The days when you and I were young, Maggie." (Mrs. Cahoon's name is Margaret.

6th. "Mrs. Abigail Johnson, now emphatically the pioneer mother of Dover. May the daughters imitate her virtues; may her sun of life decline in peace and end in glorious immortality." Response by J. R. Jewitt.

7th. Offered by H. M. Addison. "The day we celebrate. May its annual return ever be devoted to cherishing the memory of our forefathers, and cultivating friendship among their descendants."

After the toasts Rev. Mr. Hall pleasantly remarked that "so many of the young men had been called out he was fearful other kings were rising up who knew not Joseph, and proposed, therefore, that we call out the experiences of the old pioneers, upon which Mr. Leonard Johnson, of Amherst, gave an account of pioneer life and hunting from Rocky River to Huron. Mr. Johnson was followed

by Mr. George Merwin of Rockport, who gave an account of his own and his father's experience in pioneer life, being one of the first settlers of Cleveland. Mr. Norman Day, of Sheffield, said, "although it was growing late, and many were leaving, he was so delighted with the meeting that he thought he could not leave without expressing the pleasure it gave him to meet with them and to see so many pioneers. He thought these meetings produced a social and refining influence, and hoped that the example would be imitated by sister towns."

A vote of thanks was returned to the venerable President of the day, with three hearty cheers, after which we adjourned to meet October 10th, 1868.

THE DAYS WHEN YOU AND I WERE YOUNG, MAGGIE.

I wandered to day to the hill, Maggie,
To watch the scene below
The creek and the creaking old mill, Maggie,
As we used to long ago.
The green grove is gone from the hill, Maggie,
Where first the daisies sprung;
The creaking old mill is still, Maggie,
Since you and I were young.

A city so still and lone, Maggie,
Where the young and the gay and the best
In polished white mansions of stone, Maggie,
Have each found a place of rest,
Is built where the birds used to play, Maggie,
And joined in the songs that were sung,
For we sang as gay then, Maggie,
When you and I were young.

They say I am feeble with age, Maggie,
My steps are less sprightly than then,
My face is a well-written page, Maggie,
But time was alone the pen.
They say we are aged and gray, Maggie,
As sprays by the white breakers flung;
But to me you're as fair as you were, Maggie,
When you and I were young.

INTERESTING PIONEER HISTORY—REMINISCENCES OF A FEMALE CENTENARIAN.

Mrs. Jessep, who is nearly, if not quite, one hundred years old, and a daughter of Benjamin Jones, who, with James Robinson was the first settler who removed from Fort Duquesne west of the Alleghany river, after the French had evacuated Fort Duquesne, is still living at Fairview, near Pittsburg. The late Gen. Wm. Robinson, son of James Robinson above mentioned, was the first white male, and Mrs. Jessep the first white female child born west of the Alleghany. Mrs. J. does not recollect the exact year in which her father moved, but J. T. King, Esq., who has published an account of her in the Pittsburg Quarterly Magazine, thinks it must have been as early as 1770.

Mrs. Jessep says that when she was about one year old, and during the month of March, her father with five other white men, crossed the Monongahela river one day, to assist a friend in raising a cabin. The day was exceedingly wet and cold, and when the men returned in the evening, about dark, they were drenched to the skin. A good wood fire "was built up," and the men all stood around it to dry their clothes. Mrs. Jones had gone to, and was milking a cow under the shelter of an apple tree that stood near the cabin. While thus occupied she saw one of the men stagger out of the door and fall; she thought it a little singular, as she had not noticed that any of them were drunk; but her reflections were cut short by the appearance of another, who likewise staggered and fell, then another, and still another, until the whole six lay in a heap. The truth had ere this flashed upon her, but prudence bade her keep perfectly still. When all seemed quiet, with fear and trembling, she noiselessly approached the cabin, secured the children, who were left undisturbed in their humble bed in one corner, and fled into the darkness, lest she and they should be the next victims. The rain was still pouring down in torrents, and to use Mrs. Jessep's own language, the "night was powerful dark;" trembling in every limb, not only from fear, but with cold, she passed the night under some "paw-paw" bushes; using sometimes her own body, and sometimes making the boy use his to protect the child from the storm; and had not this precaution been taken, Mrs. Jessep, who was that child of nearly a hundred years ago, might not be living to-day to repeat her mother's account of that fearful night. The long sleepless hours that intervened before the morning, which might bring her relief or consign her to a similar or perhaps worse fate than her husband had met, was an age of horrible forebodings.

As it afterward transpired, the six men had been stabbed by an Indian who had stealthily crept up behind

and done his work with such precision and dispatch that there was scarcely an outcry. One of the men, however, by the name of William Freeman, escaped fatal injury; the other five, including Mr. Jones, died, it is supposed, instantly. Freeman after a time recovered his senses, and with his remaining strength crawled to the Ferry House, kept by James Robinson. He stated the occurrence to Mr. Robinson, who immediately sent word to Fort Pitt, whence a party of men was sent in pursuit of the assassin. In the morning Mrs. Jones and her children were brought over to the Fort and properly provided for. The pursuing party followed the Indian's trail for several days, and finally succeeded in making him prisoner at a point on Lake Erie, near where the city of Erie is now situated. His captors reached the Fort in safety with their prisoner, and it was at first determined that the boy Jones should shoot him, to avenge the death of his father, but wiser counsel prevailed, and he was taken to Hannahstown, placed in the county jail and afterward tried, found guilty and executed—*the first man hung west of the mountains by order of law.* Mrs. Jessep could not remember the Indian's name, and as the records of the court were all destroyed when the town was sacked by the Indians, this and the precise date of the hanging are likely to remain shrouded in mystery. As Mrs. Jessep was a year old at the time of the murder of her father, the inference is that she was born some years before General Robinson, unless his age was greater than computed.

WAKEMAN · INHABITANTS PRIOR TO SEPT. 14, 1827.

We are indebted to J. G. Sherman, Esq., of Wakeman, for the following record of the inhabitants of Wakeman, from Sept. 14, 1822, to Sept. 14, 1827, kept by his father, the late Justin Sherman.

The number of inhabitants in the town of Wakeman, including children, Sept. 14, 1822.

S. Bristol,	3	A. Buck,	3	6
A. P. Pierce,	7	C. Manvel,	2	9
A. Canfield,	7	J. Sherman,	9	16
H. M. Clark,	3	S. Hendrix,	3	6
M. Johnson,	3	P. Sherman	7	10
L. Hill,	1	M. French,	1	2
B. French,	4	C. French,	5	9
S. French,	6	J. Minor,	4	10
S. Smith,	5	J. Wilson,	1	6
		Total, - - -		74

Sept. 14, 1823, increase of population, -	20
" " 1824, " " -	8
" " 1825, " " -	12
" " 1826, omitted.	
" " 1827, increase in two years, -	52
Total, - - -	166

The following persons had located themselves here previous to Sept. 14, 1857.

W. Todd,	3	Rufus Bunce,	5	8
——Strong,	5	A. Parsons,	6	11
Sheldon Barnes,	4	Russell Barnes.	4	8
Wm. Beers,	6	Isaac Hill,	10	16
Bela Coe,	3	Amos Clark,	2	5
Merrit Hyde,	5	Garry Hyde,	1	6
Gearshon Shelton,	6	Harvey Smith,	7	13
Marcellus Booth,	2	Elisha Sheldon,	1	3
		Wm. Barnes,		1

The Methodist Church was organized about 1829, by the following named persons becoming members: Erastus French, Lucius Tomlinson, Philo Sherman, Betsey Sherman, and Phebe Sherman.

BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH OF CHARLOTTE MERRY.

BY SETH JENNINGS.

Mrs. Charlotte Merry, widow of Ebenezer Merry, of Milan, was born in Tinemouth, Vermont, Aug. 17th, 1780. She was the daughter of Aaron and Sarah Adams, and the second of eleven children.

She and one sister, Mrs. Moore, now living in Des Moines, Iowa, and a brother, Lysander Adams, of Tennessee, are the only remaining members of the family.

Her father was born in Canaan, and her mother in New Milford, Connecticut.

When Mrs. Merry was 14 years of age, her father moved to Utica, N. Y. The inhabitants of that now somewhat noted place, then consisted of the families of Messrs. Bagg, Post, House, and Blue, with Messrs. White and Black for out of town neighbors. Rather an odd combination of names. Probably they thought no "pent up Utica was theirs."

In February, 1800, Mr. Adams and family moved to Avon, on the Genesee river. The country was not much settled, snow very deep, and the journey tedious.

Her father purchased a farm there, which is still occupied by the family of a deceased son. She soon formed the acquaintance of Ebenezer Merry, who had been absent in the distant wilds of Ohio, seeking and preparing a home, but who had returned to his father's (Ebenezer Merry, Esq.,) at Avon, to spend the winter, and, as he said, get him a wife.

He was born in Hartford, Connecticut, July 21st, 1773. His father moved to Kinderhook when he was a young lad, and soon to Avon, in Western New York. But "westward still," was his motto, so he pushed his way to Geauga Co., Ohio, when it was *not* a county, and commenced clearing land, and keeping "Bachelor's Hall."

His domicil was very scantily furnished, and his wardrobe ditto. When an article was lost, or worn out, it was not easily replaced. On one occasion, he greased his shoes, at night, set them just outside the door, and in the morning they were missing.

Supposing one of his bachelor friends had secreted them in a mischievous mood, he said nothing, but went out to chopping wood barefooted. In his rounds he found one of his shoes; they had been taken away by a wolf, and gnawed for the grease they contained. He was unable to purchase another pair till he reached Erie, several months after, on his return to Avon.

In the meantime, his feet had become so hardened, that he could stamp chestnuts from the burrs without pain.

As Mr. Merry became acquainted

with Miss Adams, he was convinced that *she* was the one to accompany him back to his new home.

On the 5th of May, 1800, they were married, and started in a few days, on horse-back, for Ohio, accompanied by Hosmer Merry, and after passing Buffalo, by Judge Austin and Mr. Wright. The road was only an Indian trail, and the streams were sometimes crossed by fording, and sometimes in a canoe, while the horses swam over.

One stream was bridged by felling a tree, but being rather short, Mrs. Merry got over her shoes in water, while picking her way through the branches to the shore.

One night they stayed at an Indian cabin, and once at a lonely camping ground in the woods; but they generally obtained shelter in the log houses of the scattering settlements. Their romantic wedding tour was completed in twelve days; having left Avon, New York, May 14th, and arrived in Mentor, Ohio, May 26th.

There were but three families in that township, previous to their arrival; viz: Mr. Jared Ward's, Mr. Charles Parker's, who afterwards came to Milan, and the family of a Mr. Park.

There were also three families where the city of Cleveland now stands. Mr. Clark's, Mr. Carter's, and Major Spafford's.

During the war of 1812, Mr. Merry contracted to bring supplies for the army from Pittsburgh to Huron. They learned of Hull's surrender in the night. Mr. Merry got up and went out to rally his neighbors, while Mrs. Merry went to bread-making for those who might come in.

Six of Mr. Merry's children were born in Mentor, viz: Sarah, Mary, Julia, Martin, Samuel and Lucy. Elizabeth, Ebenezer and Charlotte (deceased) were born in Milan.

They remained in Mentor, till the fall of 1817, when they moved to Milan, bringing with them the family of Alexander Mason, who was killed on the Peninsula, by the Indians the previous year.

They left Mentor Nov. 1st, and reached Milan Nov. 8th; requiring more days for the accomplishment of their journey than it would now require hours. They came with two teams, one of horses and one of oxen.

On the way, Mrs. Merry who was on the back wagon, observed Mr. Merry and the driver of the foremost team, examining a bridge which lay before them, as though doubtful of its strength. Several of the children were seated on the wagon, and she called to the men to take them from the load; but seeing them determined to drive on, she sprang to the ground and ran after them.

Her urgent entreaties prevailed, and they reluctantly took them down. It was well they did so, for before the team was half way across, the bridge gave way. By hard urging the oxen got over, taking the front wheels with them; the wagon went down about sixteen (16) feet, bottom side up.

"Well," coolly remarked Mr. Merry, "woman's fears do good sometimes, don't they?"

A Mr. Harvey, to whom Mr. Merry had rented his farm in Milan, lived in a small log house, and the families stayed with them till a floor was laid, and a temporary chimney built in the block house on his farm at Camp Avery. The building had been occupied by soldiers during the war, and used as a barn the winter previous to their arrival. A log house was soon completed, into which they moved near the last of December, and was ready to receive company on New Years day.

Mr. and Mrs. Abbot, Mr. and Mrs. Ward, Mr. and Mrs. Jeffrey, Mr. and

Mrs. Hosmer Merry and Mrs. Mason were their guests.

The people regarded all who lived within several miles of them as neighbors, and visited them as often as possible.

They were their own milliners and dressmakers, and followed the fashions of the day, so far as they knew them; but they never discussed the matter to any great length.

In 1816, Mr. Merry "laid out" the town of Milan. Ministers and teachers were soon called into requisition.

The first school taught for white children in the village of Milan, was in the "Old Mission House," and stood where the back kitchen of the house built by Dr. Harris, now stands, Miss Roxa Whitney, (now Mrs. Doddridge Paul) was the teacher.

Moravian Missionaries had formerly lived here among the Indians, but at the time of Mr. Merry's arrival in Milan, no Indians lived near. They however, often passed back and forth through the place, and always regarded him as their friend. Those who had known him in New York, loved to meet him, and the old chief "Red Jacket," on an excursion West to attend an Indian treaty, turned aside to spend a night with his former friend. Here we will say that his hospitality and benevolence were unbounded.

All that his time and strength, and means could accomplish, for those who needed his help, was freely done. Every plan for the improvement of the town, met with his hearty cooperation, so far as his means would allow. His mind was fertile in plans and expedients for the accomplishment of what he deemed necessary to be done, and his industry untiring. About the time Milan was "laid out," Mr. Merry took measures for the erection of a flouring mill and saw mill, which was a great convenience to the inhabitants, and a source of improvement to the town. He several times represented the county in the legislature of the State, and was twice elected to a seat on the bench of Common Pleas; but declined the honor in both instances.

In 1819, having sold his farm to Messrs. Minuse and Kline, he moved into the village and built the house now occupied by Seth Jennings, Esq. It was generally well filled. All who had ever known either Mr. or Mrs. Merry, were sure to give them a call if they came near, and were heartily welcomed, the sick and afflicted were there sure of care and sympathy.

His business, too, required many workmen, and they were always treated with great kindness.

He frowned upon all immorality and unfairness, and was truly an "honest man, the noblest work of God." He was strictly temperate in his habits, never taking anything stronger than tea or coffee, and for twenty-seven years previous to his death, he ate no kind of meat.

In 1837 he built the house now occupied by his widow, and there on the morning of January 2d, 1846, he died aged 72 years, greatly respected and beloved.

Mr. Merry's business, and company that thronged his house, brought great care and labor upon Mrs. Merry, but she always proved herself equal to her tasks, and found much time to visit her friends, to attend upon the sick and help the needy. In 1856 the fourth daughter, Mrs Lucy Pier, (who with her husband had emigrated to Texas 21 years previous,) paid her first visit to her old home. During her stay there was a family meeting. Mrs. Merry, her sons and daughters, their wives and husbands, were all present, except Mr. Jas. B. Pier. In all that long absence but one link had been broken.

When she was 81 years of age, she had a severe attack of erysipelas

and typhoid fever, and her left hand became so stiffened, that she cannot knit, but now at the age of 86, she sews very neatly, and attends to some domestic duties.

Her memory is still good; she takes as much interest in reading the papers and keeping posted in political and financial affairs as ever in her life.

On the 17th of August, 1866, a number of the Pioneers of our village paid her the compliment of a birthday surprise; feeling that they might not have the pleasure of meeting her many more times, and of recalling memories of early life in the "Fire Lands."

Early hardships and deprivations were recounted, as page by page of life's history came up, until the present bright and prosperous condition of our country, but with all the delicacies change had brought, it was agreed that the visit of "to-day" was no more enjoyed than when, in days of yore, they accepted the simple fare then afforded.

DAVID STILES—A CENTENARIAN.

The *Evergreen*, a Masonic periodical, published in Dubuque, Iowa, gives this interesting biographical notice of a Centenarian Pioneer, whose life history was in a brief part identified with that of the Fire Lands, and some of whose descendants and family connections are among our most esteemed citizens.

The events, incidents and observations in the life-time of a man over a hundred years old—one who was a pioneer emigrant from New England to the unsettled portion of New-York at the time of the American Revolution, and resumed frontier life from time to time—westward, often in advance of roads, and who helped to organize society in places which have since become prosperous towns and flourishing cities, until he lives—a centenarian, west of the Mississippi, afford the most striking contrast between the present state of our country and its condition thirty, sixty and ninety years ago.

David Stiles, a resident of Dubuque, Iowa, was born in the town of Woodbury, Litchfield county, Connecticut, May 21st, 1766. Such a life includes the most important events of modern history. Within that period all the Republics on the Western continent have been established. He was a voter at the election of President Washington, and except on some quadrennial occasions, when he resided in Canada or in the Territories, he has voted at Presidential elections ever since. He was ten years old when he participated, with other boys, in celebrating the Declaration of Independence, and over twenty when the Constitution was adopted, making the American colonies a Nation. He was nearly forty years old before the region between the Mississippi and

the Pacific became territory of the United States; over forty years old before successful steamboat navigation, and had passed his half century when the first steamship, in 1839, crossed the Atlantic. He was three years older than Wellington and Napoleon, when the victory of one and the defeat of the other, at the battle of Waterloo, settled for a long time the alliance policy of the nations of continental Europe. He was over sixty years old before the first locomotives appeared on American railroads, and a still older man before the steam printing press, the daguerreotype, the sewing machine and the telegraph were known.

His ancestors were among the early colonists of New England, and his grandfather, Rev. Ezra Stiles, was President of Yale College from 1777 to 1795. The geneological records of New England families are said to confirm his family tradition, that three brothers of the name were passengers in the "Mayflower" in 1620, one of whom settted in Massachusetts, another in Rhode Island, and the other in Connecticut. His father, David Stiles, died when the subject of this sketch was only seven years old. His enduring constitution and remarkable longevity appear to be derived from his mother, who died twenty years ago in Orleans county, New York, at the age of a hundred and ten. One of her brothers, Seth Newcomb Sherwood, died in the same county some years since at the age of one hundred and twenty-nine.

On the death of his father he was placed in the care of an uncle, by marriage, Gilbert Caswell, who removed to Washington county, New York, where he remained till the age of fourteen, in 1780. About that time he accompanied his uncle to Canada, but the unsettled condition of that country during the Revolution, compelled the family to return the next year to the county of their former home in New York. He then commenced to learn the trade of a mill-wright, and worked in that art until the age of twenty-five, when, in 1791, he accompanied two other mill-wrights, named George Davis and William Johnson, in a journey to build mills in Upper Canada.

They prepared a boat, furnished it with supplies, proceeded down the Hudson and ascended the Mohawk river, propelling the boat mostly by the use of poles. Hollanders and their descendants had already made many settlements in the Mohawk valley, but the three pioneers met with little favor from a people who had seen some "Yankee tricks," and had a suspicion and prejudice against all strangers of a different nationality.

At Fort Schuyler, now Utica, there was a double log building containing all the hotel accommodations. This structure, with a log trading house, constituted all the buildings in that place.

On reaching Fort Stanwix, now Rome, the only residents were several Frenchmen. With their assistance and the use of a team their boat was taken across the portage to Wood Creek, which they descended to Oneida Lake. Following the outlet they reached, after a difficult passage, the Oswego river, which they descended to Lake Ontario. The place where the city of Oswego now stands was then occupied by two bachelors living in a hut made of poles.

They continued their voyage along the curving shore of the Lake, crossed the outlet of the St. Lawrence river, and proceeded west along the northern shore to Port Hope, the place of their destination, and where they built the first mill in that part of Canada West.

Mr. Stiles worked at his trade several years, then married, acquired a farm and remained in Canada until

the war of 1812, when he returned to the State of New York and traversed the thinly settled region of the western counties.

He volunteered as a mechanic in the service of the United States in 1812 to aid in building a fort at Black Rock, near Buffalo. As he would not return to Canada and take the oath of allegiance to Great Britain, or as he terms it "abjuration of the United States," he sent for his family and made a new home in Ontario county, New York. He remained at Palmyra and elsewhere in that county several years, occupying rented farms, and in the fall of 1816 he started with his family for northern Ohio, then being settled by immigrants from the Middle and Eastern States. Circumstances, on his way, compelled him to stop during the winter at Erie, Pennsylvania. In the spring of 1817 he pushed on to Huron county, Ohio, and made his residence at Bloomingville, near Portland, where he remained about four years engaged in farming and as a teamster. While there he was appointed an assessor, and went from one neighborhood to another following Indian trails to estimate the value of property in the new communities.

The territory of Michigan next attracted his attention, and in 1821 he proceeded to Detroit, where his family remained about a year. He explored the interior of Michigan as far as safety would permit at that time, and selected the vicinity of Ypsilanti for a new home. The object of leaving his family at Detroit for a summer and winter was to give his older children the benefit of a school. In the spring of 1822, he moved his family by boat by the long route of Huron river to his new location now only thirty miles west of Detroit by railroad. Nine miles of the forest portion of the road to Detroit was the next year cut out with his own hands. He had driven his cattle over nearly the same route in the cold weather and deep snow of winter accompanied by his second son, then twelve years old, following the Indian trail by the only passable route of forty miles.

Judge Woodward, another of the pioneers, had purchased government land on Huron river with a view to lay out a town. Mr. Stiles assisted in that work and was asked to give the place a name. He suggested that of Franklin as a name that should be commemorated by Americans, but Judge Woodward afterwards determined to honor a celebrated Greek general, laboring for the freedom of his country, by the name of Ypsilanti.

He remained there a few years till thousands of emigrants had gone beyond him, and roads had been extended to Lake Michigan, and then set his face toward Chicago, a small trading place of less than five hundred inhabitants. At that time the principal exported product of the Northwest was furs purchased from the Indian hunters and white trappers and traders. Having changed his avocation several times he now engaged in a new business—that of keeping a hotel. A second hotel building, constructed of hewed logs, one and a half stories high and with board partitions, had been erected, capable of accommodating about a hundred guests. The rent of this building, then owned by Wm. Hale, was three hundred and sixty-five dollars a year, including a frontage right on Chicago river for the landing of freight near the house from the few sail vessels then engaged in the lake trade. In that year, 1833, Chicago had but twenty-eight voters who participated in the organization of the local government.

In two years this pioneer of nearly sixty years progress westward, re-

solved to migrate for the first time eastward, and returned to Hillsdale county, Michigan, where he remained about four years. But he could not give up the pioneer life. In 1839 he returned to Chicago, then rapidly becoming a city, and continued thence westward over a hundred miles nearer the Mississippi and made a new frontier home with other settler, on Pecatonica river, two miles south of the State line, and near the present site of the town of Winslow, Stephenson county, Illinois, and remained there about two years.

He had then reached the border of the Upper Mississippi lead region, but the farmer emigrants had again passed him, and in 1841 he sought a new location and moved to Hazel Green, Wisconsin Territory, then a new town near the center of the mining district. The next year he moved a little further and within five miles of the Mississppi, to Fairplay, a new mining settlement in Wisconsin, and opened a boarding house for miners.

At this time, 1842, his age was nearly seventy-five years, but he considered himself then in the prime of life. He had been a slim, spare, and rather thin faced man for more than fifty years, his weight ranging from a hundred and fifty to a hundred and sixty pounds; his hight five feet nine inches, and with little appearance of much physical strength. The miners called him "Uncle David," and many young men, who boarded with him over twenty-five years ago, are now growing gray, but they refer with pleasure to the reminiscences of that time and speak of him as a kind-hearted, generous man, and especially obliging to strangers. They represent him as sensitive to being considered old, and if a man called him "old Uncle David," or intimated that he was growing old, he would offer to throw such a man on his back. The wrestling challenge on that account, was often accepted, and some young man, or one of middle age, weighing thirty or fifty pounds more than himself would be laid on the ground to the great amusements of the by-standers.

One feat of his strength at that time, often repeated, astonished the spectators. He would sit flat on the floor, and allow the heaviest man present to sit astride of his shoulders and the next heaviest man to sit astride on the shoulders of the first and then rise erect at such disadvantage, without touching his hands to the floor and with an inconvenient weight often of nearly four hundred pounds. But he had performed the same feat forty years before at Buffalo when he surprised the officers and soldiers by raising in that manner, on a bet, a man weighing two hundred and nineteen pounds. He then proposed to have the lightest man in the company added to the weight. A man was found weighing a hundred and thirty and he raised both to the greater astonishment that such a small, slim man could excel in such an apparently difficult undertaking.

He remained at Fairplay less than two years. At that time the trading point for that part of Wisconsin was at Galena, Illinois, twelve miles distant. The supplies for his table were sometimes brought thither on his shoulders. He would walk the trip of twenty-four miles and bring a back-load in the time of eight hours. He was then and had been for fifty years of that enduring, energetic, hard working class of men who alternately led and followed similar men in the self constituted army of progressive emigrants, halting at intervals, at way stations, through a period of fifty years, from the Hudson to the Mississppi Such was the character

of a majority of the early settlers of the West. The hardy emigrant often led the way over prairies on foot, or with an ax in his hands through forests, the wife as often followed on foot and the oldest boy drove the team conveying in a wagon all the supplies for the trip and the utensils and furniture for a new home.

In 1843 Mr. Stiles crossed the Mississippi and explored the interior of the Territory, as far as Cedar river, some years before Cedar Falls, Waterloo or any other town north or west of Cedar Rapids was settled. The exploring party on this occasion consisted of Mr. Stiles, his son Reuben, Samuel Wiltse, Willard Hall, Ezekiel Wood, a man named Walker, and a son of Governor Dewitt Clinton, of New York. The trip was made in May and June 1843.

At that time the Indian title, except a possessory right for three years, had just been extinguished to the western three-fourths of Iowa. There was then no settlement in Linn county except several families at Cedar Rapids and several others at Linn Grove near Marion. That county is now one of the richest in the interior and has a population of twenty-five thousand people.

In removing to the valley of the Wapsipinicon at the present site of Quasqueton, Buchanan county, Iowa, on Wapsipinicon river, he passed through a sparsely settled region for seventy miles west of Dubuque, a district of three counties now containing over sixty-five thousand inhabitants, and including Dubuque, the chief city of the State. That part of the county selected by him for the tenth new home was being rapidly settled, but on account of the depredations and interference of horse and cattle theives and other reckless characters, he resolved at the end of two years to migrate for a second time eastward, and returned to Hazel Green in 1845 where his wife died three years afterwards in 1848.

Being then over eighty years old he concluded to pass the rest of his life in the neighborhood of his children in this part of the West, and has ever since remained in the adjacent parts of Wisconsin, Illinois and Iowa, and for the last fifteen years has resided mostly with his son, Reuben Stiles, at Dubuque. In the summer within four years he has taken an occasional walk of twelve miles to Hazel Green, and sometimes further to see gray-haired friends whom he knew as boys, and who knew him as an old man forty years ago.

This brief outline sketch of Mr. Stiles and his long life would be still more defective without a reference to his descendants.

He first married at the age of nearly twenty-nine, Martha Ransom, at Darlington, forty miles from Toronto, in 1795. She was a daughter of Ebenezer Ransom, the first white settler of Sandusky, Ohio. The first child of this marriage was a daughter named Clara. She married Allen Thomas in 1820. He is still living in Wisconsin. She died in 1842, leaving a large family. The second child was a son named Rudd, who died, leaving a family, many years ago in Michigan. A third child died in infancy.

His second marriage was with Elizabeth Cummins in 1807. The first child of this marriage was Reuben Stiles, born November 22, 1809, now living with a large family in Dubuque. The second child was a daughter named Sarah, and is now the wife of Hon. H. R. Coulter, Lancaster, Wisconsin. A second daughter, Arminta, is the wife of Newton Kane, and has a large family living in Sacramento, California. The third daughter, Mary, married Daniel Bostwick, and died at Ypsilanti about

thirty years ago, leaving one child. A fourth daughter, named Lucinda, married Robert Young in 1843, and several years after his death she married Reuben Hoag, whom she also survived. She died in 1859, and was buried between her husbands at Hazel Green, Wisconsin. The fifth child was a son named Edwin, and lives with his family in California. The youngest child, Nathan, was born in 1820, and is therefore nearly fifty years old. He is unmarried and lives in Minnesota. His oldest grandchild was born in 1829, and was named Anson Thomas. His eldest son, Rudd, was married on the 4th of March 1829, the day of President Jackson's first inauguration. He has seen his children of the third generation grow up to be men and women and though many have died the number of his living descendants is now about sixty. The oldest of his great-grandchildren know to be living is George Bush now about twenty years old and residing at Rock Island, Illinois. The genealogy of his descendants would make a long list of names. They are mostly in the Northern and Pacific States. The residences of some of them are known to be in Canada, and of many others in New York, Ohio, Michigan, Indiana, Wisconsin, Minnesota, Iowa and Califorina.

When Mr. Stiles lived in Ohio, that State had only four hundred thousand inhabitants. Now it has a population of nearly three millions.

When he was first a citizen of Michigan Territory, then including Wisconsin, there were only twenty thousand people in a region containing widely separated settlements extending over four hundred miles. The State of Michigan has now about a million inhabitants.

When he migrated to Wisconsin, that Territory had only thirty-five thousand inhabitants; now the State has over a million.

When first a resident in Iowa, the Territory had less than forty-five thousand people; now it has over nine hundred thousand. In nearly all his removals he preceded schools to the disadvantage of himself in early life and to the greater disadvantage of all his children. Where he helped lay out lots and streets and to build the first houses and mills at Ypsilanti there is now a Normal school for the education of teachers for the free schools of Michigan.

When he first lived in Illinois that State had less than five hundred thousand, now it has over two millions. At Chicago, he lived in a frontier trading town, now a city of over two hundred and fifty thousand inhabitants. At that time nearly every article of food, convenience, and luxury was brought from the East by way of the lakes. Chicago is now, and has been for ten years, the largest primary grain market and lumber market in the world. The first grain, beef and pork were exported from that town after Mr. Stiles kept his small hotel to entertain the few immigrants and occasional traders. The commerce of that city now, not only tends to regulate the provision and flour markets of our own country, but its figures are consulted with careful interest by the statesmen and merchants of the seacoast nations of Europe in considering the relation between their annual agricultural products and the wants of their people. An occasional schooner or a transient steamboat then entered the little river that has since been made a harbor, and in the present winter, 1867—'68, contains a commercial fleet of more than a thousand vessels.

When traveling from New York with a wagon on his often resumed journey of twenty-five years, he

preceded the railroads twenty years in New York and Pennsylvania, fifteen years in Ohio and Michigan, nearly twenty years in Illinois, and ten years in Wisconsin and Iowa. But the railroad overtook him on the bank of the Mississippi in 1855, at the age of ninety, and has since passed beyond him over eight hundred miles, on the way to the Pacific States.

He was over sixty years old before the first three miles of horse power railroad was built in the United States, and yet he has lived to know that our country has now over thirty-eight thousand miles of railroad, and if he lives two years longer he will hear that these iron bands of commerce and civilization will have been extended from ocean to ocean —in a continuous line from Portland to San Francisco, a distance of more than three thousand miles.

Since he came to the Northwest, steamboats have taken the place of bark canoes and keel boats on the Upper Mississippi and the number of steamers and barges now exceeds that of all the Indian canoes, including the frail crafts of the traders, on Western rivers forty-five years ago.

The whole route of his travel from Connecticut to Iowa was on foot or by wagon, the usual means of transit in the day of his migrations. Such a journey at twenty-five miles a day by his route would require fifty days. Now he could make the trip by nearly the same line to his native town by railroad in fifty hours, and if he had a friend or relative left there he could send him "greeting," by telegraph and receive a reply in less than fifty minutes.

The facts of many of these contrasts are within the memory of thousands of the readers of this page, but the life tables and mortuary statistics show that only one person in two hundred thousand reaches the age of one hundred years, and in our country, though the length of life is increasing, and the average age of those living at any time is about twenty-five years, there is not probably more than one in twenty thousand who has seen a man of the age of Mr. Stiles.

He has outlived all the associates of his boyhood, and nearly all the relatives, friends and neighbors of his early manhood, and most of those he knew in middle life. He tells, with the retained sorrow of childhood, of attending the funeral of a little playmate girl, Matilda Pierce, five years old, ninety-seven years ago. He was joyously present at the wedding of his cousin, John Stockholm, and Rebecca Negus, in 1778, ninety years ago.

He has led a hard working active life. In personal habits he has always been prudent and temperate, and consequently has generally had good health.

This man has grown old gracefully, in his way, by preserving a lively disposition, a jovial nature and kindly manner. His eye-sight began to fail at eighty, and gradually improved from ninety to a hundred, but recently he has been unable to read. When the weather does not permit him to take out-door exercise, he walks the floor, and sometimes for amusement counts the trips he makes across it. His memory appears to be nearly as retentive as to persons and events of six years ago as it is of names and occurrences when he was sixteen or sixty years old.

But he is failing, year by year, more rapidly in winter, and before many anniversaries of his birth a May day will come when the grass and flowers that he has seen at his feet,in spring time, for a hundred years will grow and blossom around his grave. All who know him honor the old man living, and those who survive him will bless his memory.

SEMI-CENTENNIAL ANNIVERSARY.

The First Presbyterian Church in Milan, commemorated the first half century of its existence, as a society, by appropriate exercises on Saturday and Sunday the 25th and 26th days of April, 1868. The First Presbyterian Church was organized in that place on the 25th day of April 1818, and a large number of those who have been connected with it, in the fifty years of its history, many of them now residing in other places, came to share in the interest of this anniversary. A preparatory lecture, on Saturday, was delivered by the venerable ELDAD BARBER, Pastor of the Presbyterian Church at Florence, Erie County, and was characterized by deep earnestness and marked ability. Mr. BARBER was first indentified with this Church in 1832, when he came to Milan to take charge of the Huron Institute, then inaugurated as a seminary for education in English and preparatory college courses. Associated with him as his assistant, was Rev. HENRY BALLENTINE, subsequently and for twenty-five years, well-know as a devoted and successful missionary to Ahmednugger, India, but now deceased.

Following the lecture at the church was a social gathering, com prising some 75 persons, at the residence of the pastor, Rev. J. H. WALTER.

On Sabbath morning, a meeting of social reunion was held at the "Old Yellow School-house," a frame building a short distance to the southeast of the public square, which is memorable not only for its use for educational purposes during a period of 43 years, but also as the place where all religious services were held from the time of its erection in 1825, till 1832, when the Presbyterian Church began to meet at the Huron Institute, and whence it removed to its new house of worship in January, 1837. It was here that Rev. EVERTON JUDSON, whose name is so intimately associated with the history of this church, first and for some three years (from 1829 to '32,) preached.

In the forenoon, at the church, the Anniversary Discourse was delivered by the Pastor, Rev. Mr. Walter, from the text Leviticus XXV; 10—"And ye shall hallow the fiftieth year, it shall be a jubilee unto you."

From a summary of the historical part of the discourse, published in the *Toledo Commercial*, we quote the following:

After a brief explanation of the nature and design of the jubilee of the Jews, the preacher gave a highly interesting sketch of the religious history of Milan, which was originally an Indian village of Delawares and Ottawas, whose settlements extended up and down the river (the

Huron) for several miles. In the latter part of the last century the Moravian church began a mission among these tribes, which was probably a branch of the one on the Muskingum river. It was not till 1804, that permanent missionary labor was begun at this point. At this time Rev. Christian Frederick Dencke arrived here with a colony of converted Indians, who had been driven from their homes by persecuting whites and settled on the present site of Milan, naming the place "Pequotting." At the time of the survey of the "Fire Lands," (1807) some progress had been made in this missionary work, the number of dwellings then being 16. The house of the chief, whose English name was "David," stood on the lot now occupied by the residence of Mr. J. F. Adams. The mission chapel stood on the lot formerly occupied by Mr. Thomas Hamilton, now of Toledo, and the missionary's residence on the lot next west of the Presbyterian Church. The missionary was a native of Iceland, whose father had also been a missionary. His library occupied a space of 6 by 10 feet, showing him to be a man of remarkable reading. In consequence of the influx of white settlers in 1807-9, the missionary and a large number of the Indians removed to Canada, in the region of the Thames river. The preacher paid a just tribute to the faithfulness and value of the services of this missionary.

For several years after this, there was accasional preaching at private houses in the "Abbot settlement," uorth of Milan, by Rev. Milton Badger, of the Presbyterian Church, who was Chaplain of the U. S. Army at Fort Avery, on or near what was subsequently the "Kline farm." After the war of 1812, the country began to settle much faster, and the result was an increase of religious element, which in 1816 developed itself in a Methodist class, in the "Jeffrey neighborhood," (about halfway between Milan and Huron,) of which Thomas Jeffrey was the leader. Here the pioneer preacher, "Father Gurley," occasionally preached at this time.

During the same years, (1816) the late William Spears came into the township, settling at what subsequently became know as "Spears Corners," and others soon followed. Thus strengthened, the Christian people of the neighborhood, on the 25th of April, 1818, at the house of Mr. Spears, which stood on the ground west of the present residence of Mr. Wilcox, the son-in-law of Mr. S., organized the "First Congregational Church of Huron." The sermon was preached by Rev. Wm. Williams, who was assisted in the ceremony by Rev. Alvin Coe, of the Connecticut Missionary Society, and subsequently, until within a few years, the agent of the American Bible Society in Northern Ohio. The church was constituted of Wm. Spears and his wife Love, Gilbert Sexton and his wife Deborah, Wm. Adams and his mother Eleanor—six in all. These comprised the Church. The following day, being Sabbath, the first communion of the Lord's Supper took place at the house of M. P. Smith, in the neighborhood. No accessions were made to the young church until January 9th, 1819, when were received Philo Adams, Josiah Smith, Thos. Sexton, Laura Sayles and Polly Dennison. Others united in the following June, including Lyman Scott, who was present at the anniversary, and is the only one of these early members now living. Services were held alternately at the houses of Messrs. Spears and Seth A. Adams, and ultimately at the school-house.

In 1823 the church was removed to Milan, which in the meantime had become quite a village, and when its

name was changed to "First Congregational Church of Milan." At this time some 20 persons united by letter. In 1825 the church changed its form of government to Presbyterian, and chose three Ruling Elders. The membership then numbered 37 in all—9 males and 28 females, but very few of whom remain in life. Upon the removal to Milan, services were held in a school-house on the ground now occupied by the Eagle Tavern, and subsequently in what is now known as the "old Yellow School-house." It was here that the people gathered at the sound of the horn so skillfully blown by Mr. Giles Chapin, and continued to hold "reading meetings," until a preacher could be secured. In the spring of 1826, Ralph Lockwood and Milton Jennings were appointed to select sermons to be read and Daniel Hamilton and Dr. A. B. Harris were appointed as readers, with Ozias Long as chorister.

The 4th of October, 1829, opened a new era with the young church. On that day, in the yellow school-house, Rev. Everton Judson preached his first sermon in Milan. There were about thirty persons present. [At the morning meeting at the school-house, Mr. Walter asked how many were then present who heard Mr. Judson's first sermon, when seven responded.] The new preacher at once made his mark as a man of more than ordinary ability and force, and at the end of four months his hearers had increased to about 120. The families then in the village numbered about 60, representing a total population of about 400. There were twenty-five to thirty professors of religion, of whom twenty were Presbyterians, showing that the church membership had decreased in five years. But at this time a new impulse was given to the cause. In 1830 the form of government was changed back to Congregational. In 1833, the church began to hold its Sabbath services at the Huron Institute, just completed, the devotional meetings still being held at the school-house.

In January, 1835, the first efforts were made towards erecting a house of worship, under the name of "The First Presbyterian Society," which had been incorporated. A few citizens met at the house of N. M. Standart, now of Cleveland, to inaugurate the movement, which resulted in the completion and dedication in January, 1837, of the present edifice at an expense of about $8,000. From this period the church had a steady and healthy growth, with repeated revivals, till the death of its pastor, in 1848, when it somewhat declined in membership, but subsequently revived and continued, as it now does, to be prosperous and influential.

The ministerial labors in this church were as follows: In 1819, Rev. S. N. B. Sullivan, at a salary of $200. Occasionally, after this, Revs. Alvin Coe, Caleb Pitkin, J. Seward, A. H. Betts, William Sandford and J. Treat. In 1824, Rev. D. W. Lathrop. In 1825-6 Rev. I. S. Demond. Rev. Wm. Adams, one year from the fall of 1827. Rev. T. S. Shipman also labored here for sometime with general acceptance, as did the others. Mr. Judson's labors began, as stated, in October, 1829, and closed in 1848. The discourse dwelt at considerable length on the life and character of this able and devoted man, and detailed much of the service which he rendered not only to his people, but the entire community and the region round about. His great natural endowments, his remarkable development, untiring energy and zeal, and remarkable success were justly set forth, and heartily endorsed by many witnesses to the facts stated.

In November, 1848, Rev. Newton Barrett was installed as pastor of

the church, and in February, 1852, at his own request, was dismissed by Presbytery. He is now located at Dunton, Ill. Rev, J. M. Hays supplied the pulpit from April to October, 1852, when Rev. Alanson Hartpence became its stated supply and continued such, with great acceptance, for nearly three years, when his health required a change of climate and he went South. He is now residing at Holmesburg, Penn. The present pastor began his service in May, 1855, having now labored for 13 years, with the loss of but three Sabbaths from sickness, and an average respite of three weeks per annum during that time. He has made nearly 6,000 pastoral and social visits 700 being to the sick; has attended 215 funerals; has performed 110 marriage ceremonies, the fees of which amount to $570; and has "exchanged" on an average of three times a year.

The aggregate sum of money raised by the society for all objects, (home and foreign,) since its organization, is estimated at $65,000—comprised in the following items: House of worship, $8,000; repairs on same, $4,000; incidentals, $4,000; salaries of ministers, (averaging $500 per year,) $25,000; parsonage, $1,350; Sabbath school, about $1,500; foreign objects, $21,000.

In addition to the above, about $20,000 has been contributed by the members of the society in donations to the Huron Institute, Western Reserve College and other objects, the whole evincing a degree of liberality highly creditable to the church and the community.

The following statistics will show the number of members received by the church during the periods named:

	Letter.	Profession.	Total.
First 10 years,			50
19 years (Mr. Judson)	143	187	330
3 years (Mr. Barrett)	23	14	37
3 years (Mr. Hartpence,)	14	17	31
13 years (Mr. Walter,)	64	130	194
	145	355	642

No. dismissed	320	
No. deceased	70	
No. excluded	20	
No. dropped as unknown	20	
	—	430
Present membership		212

A Sabbath School reunion followed.

At 2 P. M. the church assembled for the communion of the Lord's Supper, with a large number of members of other churches present. The bread was administered by Rev. Dr. Newton of Norwalk, (a veteran of 33 years at that place,) and borne by Deacons L. Galpin and L. Scott: and the wine administered by Rev. A. Smyth, and borne by Deacons B. Ashley of Milan and H. C. Walker of Buffalo. It was a season of special solemnity and interest.

The series of anniversary exercises closed with a conference and prayer meeting in the evening.

NOTES ON FITCHVILLE TOWNSHIP.

BY JOSEPH C. CURTIS, Sn'r.

We believe from the best information we can get, that the Township received its name from a man named Fitch, who was quite a large landholder within its limits, and who resided in Connecticut.

The face of the land is generally rolling or sufficiently so to make it easy of drainage and good for tillage.

The soil is various, some portions being well supplied with clay, others quite sandy, and many of the ridges quite gravelly. It is generally destitute of stone, excepting along the bed of the river, which affords some excellent quarries, and some "hard heads" on a few farms in the south east part of the township. It is well timbered with beech, maple, whitewood, black walnut, oak, hickory, white ash, black ash, basswood and elm. The Vermillion river heads at a little lake near Savannah in Ashland county, enters this township near the south east corner, passes through near the center, and leaves it a little east of the center.

This stream furnished water power that was of great service to the early settlers. As early as 1825 the Palmers built a saw mill near the center which did much towards supplying the inhabitants with lumber. At a later date there was one built by the Lyon family, which did considerable business for a number of years. From those two mills it was not difficult to get a supply of lumber on short notice, for from $5,00 to $7,00 per 1000 feet. But as the country has improved and the swampy or low lands, have been drained, the river rises and falls more rapidly than before, making it more difficult to control and much less durable. From this and other causes, the water power has been abandoned and is now useless; yet we are of the opinion that those two sites, well improved, could be made of much value to their owners, and the inhabitants.

There was a flouring mill erected at the center by S. Pomeroy, which manufactured considerable flour for the eastern market. There was also an establishment for wool carding and dressing cloth. This establishment was built and conducted for several years by Dudley Morrill and at a later date was conducted by Pomeroy and Fox. The flouring mill is now run by steam, by Henry Palmer, who is doing a good custom business and is giving general satisfaction.

The first settlement was made in this township in the summer of 1817, by Peter Mead, Abraham Mead and Amos Reynolds. They made their beginning on the east line of the township, at the farms now occupied by the widow of Peter Mead and by John Golden.

Early in the season of 1818 there was an addition made by the arrival of the Palmer family, consisting of Rundle Palmer and wife, with four children, and another family consisting of four brothers, viz: Alva, Seely, Samuel and Linus Palmer, and their two sisters Adelia and Hannah Palmer. Rundle Palmer settled on the west side of the Vermillion river where his son David now resides. The other family settled on the east side of the river nearly opposite to Rundle, on the spot now occupied by Samuel.

In 1819 there were a few more added to their number. In that year Gilbert Martin, W. W. Watros, Abijah Palmer and Charles Lyon came in and made some little improvement, and in 1820, J N. Pickard, Henry Pickard, Absalom Coleman and Hiram A. Curtiss made their way into this settlement. If I were able to give a detailed account of their adventures it would undoubtedly be interesting to many.

In the spring of 1820, Jotham W. Curtiss, the father of H. A. Curtiss, started the project of a trip to Ohio, which was then the "Far West," with a small sail boat of his own building. He went to work and with the assistance of his son built and fitted up the sail boat, and when ready to launch, it was mounted upon four wheels, a good team was attached and the writer of this article was placed on its deck as driver. It moved from the place where it was built in Paris, Oneida county, New York, to Wood Creek in the same county, a distance of about 15 miles. This part of the journey was performed in one day. The next morning the boat was launched into that stream and was worked with oars and poles until it entered the Oneida Lake. At this place the crew and passengers all went on board. The party consisted of J. W. Curtiss, H. A. Curtiss, his wife and one child about one year old, Austin Burr, Jones Wood, and W. Williams. The three latter were young men destined for Geauga county. They stopped at the mouth of Grand river. The balance of the party landed at the mouth of the Huron river.

This trip was performed by carrying the boat around the Rapids in the Oswego river, and the falls and rapids in the Niagara river. It was probably less fatiguing but not less dangerous than the land route.

After the landing of H. A. Curtiss and family at Huron, the Captain, as he was called, entered Sandusky Bay, ran up as far as Fremont and out again to the lake and up to Detroit, and back to Sandusky City where he sold the boat. We believe it was there used for a while by the revenue Collector.

Mr. H. A. Curtiss still lives in this township; his wife died, and the child that accompanied the expedition was killed by the accidental discharge of a rifle in the hands of his brother-in-law, Chester Maiz, while in the woods hunting for deer. He left a wife and one child.

Alanson J. Curtiss, was wounded in Tennessee in 1864, in the service of his country and died of his wounds, leaving a wife and one child who now reside in this vicinity.

The first school in this Township was taught by Samuel Palmer, who still resides on the spot where he first settled. The school was kept in a log house a little south of the center of the town. The scholars were from the families of Rundle Palmer, Abijah Palmer, Charles Lyon, and Gilbert Martin.

Rundle Palmer was the first Post master and Justice of the Peace, and did much towards establishing the first Presbyterian church that was organized in the place. He now lives near Napoleon, Ohio. Among the many trials of Mr. Palmer in the early settlement was the loss of a

little son, who wandered into the woods in pursuit of his brother that went out to hunt for cows. The lad was found dead after nearly two weeks search.

Perhaps it would not be amiss to state that before leaving this town, he spent one winter in preparing and delivering lectures upon the early settlements, which were intended for evening pastime and instruction to those who listened to them, and to furnish a ground-work from which a general history of this settlement could easily be formed.

Those lectures passed into the hands of Judge Parker who designed to have handed, and he thinks did hand them to one of the former editors of the Pioneer, by whom they were probably mislaid and they have never since come to light.

In this occurrence much information relative to the early settlements was lost. It would now be very difficult for any person to procure the same information, as many of the settlers who furnished it, have since passed away. The writer of this article visited this settlement in 1825, and witnessed some of the inconveniences of a new settlement. For example the manner of converting corn into meal, was by passing it through a mill of the following description. A large stump hollowed out in the top, far enough to receive one-fourth or one-half a bushel, served for a bed stone; and a large pestle attached to a spring pole, for the upper stone or runner, and a sturdy Pioneer, served as power. In this manner meal was made, which, when cooked, was eatable and satisfied hunger, if not so palatable. Their houses were built without nails, and occasionally one could be found with oiled paper, substituted for glass. Many of them had no other lumber, than that which was manufactured with the ax. The want of roads was a very great inconvenience. As late as 1832, John Bell in attempting to go to Cold Creek mill with an ox team, traveled all day on a circuitous route through the woods and put up at night, within two miles of home, so fatigued and bewildered that he could not tell where he was.

Mr. Bell now resides in Ripley, carries on a tannery, and occasionally attempts to teach the people (not the road to mill) but the direct path to lead safely through this world to a happy home in eternity. Among the early settlers was Wm. W. Watras, who settled here in 1820. He improved a farm of about one hundred acres, about one-half a mile south of the village where his widow and one son and a daughter now reside. He was the leading spirit in establishing the first Methodist Class and Church in which he always took an active part, to the time of his death. He also served as Justice of the Peace several terms, with much credit to himself, and to the satisfaction of the people. Mr. Watros emigrated from the town of Lebanon, Madison county, in the State of New York, in 1818. Mrs. Watros was a daughter of Deacon Strong formerly of the town of Paris, Oneida county, New York. He came into this county and settled in Ridgefield, about one mile south of Monroeville in 1817. Mr. Watros raised a large family. One of his sons, Joseph N. is now serving as our County Treasurer, after having served his country through the war against the Rebellion and being unfitted for physical labor, by wounds received in the service. From Mr. T. B. White, I have the following, relative to the first religious services in Fitchville. Previous to the organization of the township, meetings were held at his house. The first sermon was preached by Elder Bordman, the next by Elder Hany. The first cir

cuit preacher was Dennis Goddin. He formed the first class for the Methodist Society at T. B. White's house in 1822.

Among the soldiers of the Revolution who have resided in this township, were Charles Eastman, Ebenezer Cook, Abraham Mead and a Mr. W. Johnson.

The first white child born in this township, was Varney P. Mead, a son of Peter Mead. He now lives in Berry county, Michigan.

In May 1818, Austin and Daniel Ward came into this township and commenced work on the farm now owned by Henry Griffin. Their first nights' lodging was between two logs, and, as Austin tells, they slept soundly.

Abijah Palmer came into the township in Aug. 1818, from Genoa New York. They were four weeks on the way with ox teams and were three days getting from Judge Sprague's in Florence, to their home in Fitchville, and they lay in the woods one night in that time.

The village of Clinton within this township was laid out in 1832, and for several years was the principal business place for the south east part of the county; but railroads have made great changes, and Clinton is almost forgotten.

SANDUSKY AND CLEVELAND—A COMMERCIAL RETROSPECT.

A correspondent of the Sandusky Register writes:

In the year 1817, the writer, then on his way to Ohio by Lake, touched at the harbor of Cleveland, and thence came on to what was then the county of Huron. Sandusky was at that time called the Ogontz Place. Venice was the point of attraction, but sickness decimated Venice, and Sandusky rose upon her decline. That early pioneer, Colonel James Kilbourne, sang her praises and established here both the ware-house of the Worthington Manufacturing Company and the prestige of the town. Jennings and Darling were her Commission Merchants, and Colonel Ferree her Custom House officer. Her harbor and pleasant bay was a theme of praise, not her only, but along the whole line of the Lake.

At the time alluded to, Cleveland was a mere village. There was a cluster of houses on the hill and a few ware-house sheds on the river bank. On the flat on both sides of the River, from the Lake up, was an unsightly view of sandbeach, mud flats, pools of water, wild marsh and river bank, surcharged with unhealthy miasma. The source of the Cuyahoga was a dense forest, and covered with wild herbage. The turbid waters of the river threw off their poison which corrupted the blood of the Clevelanders. The palor of ague was visible in almost every countenance. If there was

much suffering, the Clevelanders then enjoyed the delectable pastime of "fiddling with a shingle over the left shoulder."

But who has not heard of the "Maumee" and the "Cuyahoga?" "the lovely Cuyahoga!" Did not the poet of Sandusky, in the days of Willis, sing in John Gilpin strains of "the lovely Cuyahoga?" Aye, and the bard of Painesville, in loftier lays, launched forth his pasquinade!

"In Sandusky Bay, there is a bed of mud,
That lies beneath the crystal surges,
Where leather-back turtles and catfish play,
And nestle snug when the tempest urges;
And the frog spawn wreathed in volumes there,
As braids of pearl among dark brown hair."

All this has, however, passed away. Long since the sources of the Cuyahoga have been cleared of the forest, and that stream is comparatively pure. Now the sumptuous dwellings, the broad avenues, the shady groves, the magnificent depot, and that busy hum of life that extends over the entire flat, mark the contrast with other days. These, in casting the retrospect, seem more like the creations of a fairy tale than the realities that are visible.

But I must not anticipate. The "Walk-in-the-water" was launched, and then commenced the era of steamboats and canals. Sturdily Sandusky contended for preeminence among the lake ports. The Editor of the Clarion labored to secure some portion of the public munificence, but the Editor of the Clarion was not the artificer of the public credit of Ohio, and was obliged to yield to him who was. Mr. Kelley gained the location of the canals at Cleveland, and the Clevelanders obtained appropriations for her harbor and built steamboats and Lake craft, and increased the commerce of their city.

Huron and Sandusky also engaged in steamboat and vessel enterprises, as did the other ports of the lake. The "side-wheeler" of those days was an institution of itself—large and complete in all its appointments, with saloons gorgeously fitted up, it was well calculated to attract the traveling public, and for a long time was the favorite means of conveyance, even the railroads, in their first appearance, ran to their time.

But time and space were not annihilated. The traveling public do not loiter by the way. It has no leisure, no time to enjoy pleasant walks or shady groves, no time for reflection or self-culture. Celerity, celerity, is the spirit of the age!

Milan built her canal, and Huron improved her harbor. The grain of Northern Ohio, shipped along the southerly bend of Lake Erie, bore the palm in all the Eastern markets. Huron was buoyant with hope and Milan teemed with conestogas. Then came the man with the wheelbarrow. As Milan intercepted a portion of the grain trade that would otherwise have gone to Sandusky, so the C. C. & C. Railroad, cut off the trade of Milan and with Milan, Huron began to decay. This was a cruel blow. The railroad opened a new channel of commerce which left Milan out of its course.

A new competition commenced. Sandusky was first in the field and she put forth her strength. She projected her railroad improvements before the subject was well understood, and the progress towards the completion of her lines were slow. Two roads were thrown out, one towards Cincinnati and one towards Newark. These were made to converge at Sandusky in the expectation that both passengers and freight would be transported to the Lake and over the navigable waters toward the great cities of the East.

For a time this promised success, but the improvements in locomotive power and in Railroad construction were great. The Alleghenies no

longer presented a barrier. The great East and West Trunk Lines were constructed, and the travel converged upon them, and in a great measure the freight also. New channels of commerce were created. The business of the two roads running north and south to and from Sandusky was practically intercepted and steamboats ceased to be patronized and fell into disuse.

Sandusky, located on the Sandusky Bay, a few miles from its mouth, was comparatively isolated by her position, and a large portion of the travel and traffic passed around the head waters of the Bay, to the south of her. Much of the grain business fell off from bad seasons and the ravages of the weavil. Still she has her three Railroads, her vineyards, her lumber yards, her fisheries, and her manufactories in wood.

Cleveland, unlike Sandusky, was in the line of East and West travel and availed herself of her advantage in that respect. With great spirit she undertook and carried through enterprizes which have added much to her wealth and commerce. But what was still more to her advantage was *the completion of the Mahoning road.* This project was undertaken by an interior town, the object being to connect the coal fields of the Mahoning Valley with the navigable waters of the Lake. At one period in the progress of the enterprise it was laboring under many embarrassments, but fortunately for Cleveland, they were overcome and the road was completed.

In 1866, four hundred thousand tons of coal were transported over that road, while only two hundred thousand were received by all other conveyances.

The excellent quality of these coals for smelting iron and for making steam, has given an impetus to manufactures and a stimulus to trade and commerce, that is accelerated in its progress every day. These coal fields have done, and are still doing more for Cleveland than all the rest of her improvements put together. Coal and the Steam Engine are the great civilizers of modern times. All experience proves this, both in the old world and the new. Pass up the valley of the the Cuyahoga, on either side of the river, through the work-shops, forges, rolling-mills, ship-yards, coal yards, and refineries. Go to the blast furnaces and iron manufactories at Newbugh, and they will give evidence of the truth of what is here stated. It is said there are eleven blast furnaces in the Mahoning Valley, besides others at Pittsburgh and Steubenville, all supplied with Lake Superior ore through the port of Cleveland. As a city, the growth of Cleveland within the last few years, is amazing, and her railroads are subjects of just and laudable pride; but even the Clevelanders themselves do not clearly perceive to what this is owing, and how near the prosperity of their great city is in connection with the Mahoning coal-fields. They acknowledge the presence of the Hercules and his power, but do not understand from whence he derived his strength.

TEN MINUTES WITH THE PIONEERS.

A PEEP INTO THE PAST.

Under this head, the Norwalk *Reflector* gives some interesting facts from its files of 1830, of which we take the following:

The Reflector was established in the year 1830, by S. Preston and G. T. Buckingham, the first number being published on the 2d day of February, and was started, as the salutatory informs us, without circulating a prospectus or obtaining a single subscriber—a plan which isn't followed at the present day to any alarming extent. The publishers, however, seem to have had rapid success, for in the subsequent week but one the second number appeared, and to this day has continued to make its weekly visits, without, we believe, missing a single publication—a fact which very few if any similar publications can boast of. About this same time—a little later, if we are not in error—appeared the initial number of the Milan Free Press, making the 4th paper in Huron County, the unnamed two being the Sandusky Clarion and Norwalk Reporter, the latter being then conducted by John P. McArdle. The number of advertisers in the first number of the Reflector was rather limited, and is comprised of the following list: John Whyler & Co., who advertised dry goods and groceries at "Red Store," which said red store was situated on the corner now occupied by the Union Hotel Building; P. Latimer & Co., also dealers in dry goods and groceries, together with hard and hollow ware, and occupied, we presume, the brick storehouse on the corner of Main street and Railroad Avenue; Baker & Kimball, dealt in dry goods, and disposed of their goods about where now stands the building occupied by the Messrs. Patrick; William Gallup announced himself ready to furnish cabinet furniture and windsor chairs, whose shop was nearly, if not quite, on the spot where now stands the extensive furniture manufactory of W. R. Hoyt & Son, which, at that early day, must have been considered quite well out into the country! O. Jenney advertised his house and lot for sale, "situated a few rods west of James Williams' (law) office"—which latter we presume to have been near, if not at his present residence. Moses Kimball, being County Auditor, advertised to let to the lowest bidder the contract for erecting a building for the accommodation of County officers—the same building now occupied by Moses Yale as a grocery, corner Main and Mechanic streets. We find by the second number of Reflector that its publication promised success, and that a sufficient number of subscribers had been received to warrant its publication

weekly. The advertising patronage had also considerably increased, and among the new ones was one from Enos Gilbert, announcing the opening of a "house of entertainment" in Monroeville.

In the number for February 23, we find the following marriage notices: "In Greenfield, on the 11th inst., by Daniel Smith, Esq., Mr. Martin Smith and Miss Harriet Ashley, both of Greenfield. In Lyme township, on the 18th inst., by Chas. Rash, Esq., Mr. Samuel Clock and Miss Maria Vrooman, both of Ridgefield." Also, the following deaths: "In Bedford, O., on the 12 inst., Mr. Ziba Willis, printer, formerly publisher of the Cleveland Herald.

The following are the names of the different County officers: Clerk, D. Gibbs; Sheriff, Philo Adams;—Treasurer, H. Buckingham; Auditor, Moses Kimball; County Assessor, G. Sheffield; Commissioners, B. Sturtevant, G. W. Choate, M. M'kelvey.

On the 13th of April, we find announced the death, on the 29th of the preceding month, of Mr. William Stotts, by the falling of a tree or "stub," while burning brush in his field.

The subject of public libraries seems even in these early times to have agitated the minds of philanthropic citizens, for in the Reflector about that time appears a call upon "the young men of Norwalk and vicinity who feel friendly toward the project of a Library, to meet at the house of O. Jenney," to form an association for that purpose. The idea seems to have been popular, for we gain the information that the meeting was held at the appointed time and place, and an organization effected by the election of the following named as officers: Ebenezer Lane, President;—James Williams, Vice President; William F. Kittredge, Treasurer; and John Bedford, Secretary and Librarian. Whether or no Norwalk afterward boasted of a real Library, the writer has not in his "researches" been able to ascertain. It is to be presumed however, from the character of the officers, that the movement met with success.

At the "Annual Meeting of the Corporation of Norwalk," on May 3d, of this year, the following named persons were chosen to fill the various offices: Mayor, Frederic Forsyth; Recorder, Samuel Preston; —Trustees, Moses Kimball, Thad. B. Sturges, Lewis M. Howard, Obadiah Jenney, Isaac M. Wilson.

The Reflector of June 1, seems to have fallen upon BARBER-ous times, as witness the following from its list of marriage notices:

Married.—In Ruggles, on the 23d ult., by Elder Hezekiah Barber, Mr. John Barber and Miss Anna Gates.

Same time and place, by Zebedee Gates, Esq., Mr. Ansel Barber and Miss Mercy Barber, daughter of Elder Hezekiah Barber.

In Townsend, May 30, by Elder Hezekiah Barber, Mr. Abel Barber and Miss Palome Barber, daughter of Deacon Abijah Barber.

The "Fourth of July" was an honored institution among the pioneers, and to let one pass without a proper celebration would have been considered highly censurable; and on June 8, we find published the proceedings of a meeting "held at the hotel of O. Jenney, in Norwalk, on the 2d, to make arrangements for celebrating the 4th of July. F. Forsyth was called to the Chair, and S. Preston appointed Secretary. The object of the meeting having been explained, on motion, it was resolved proper and expedient for the citizens of this county to celebrate the Anniversary of American Independence at the hotel of O. Jenney, in the village of Norwalk, on Monday, July 5, and to that end the follow-

ing Committee of Arrangements was appointed: M. McKelvey, New Haven; Elihu Clary, Peru; George Sheffield, Lyme; John Sowers, Ridgefield; S. B. Carpenter, Oxford; Charles Lindsay, Margaretta; Aaron C. Corbett, Portland; Abiather Shirley, Huron; N. M. Standart, Milan; Jos. Otis Eldredge; Ezra Sprague, Florence; Smith Starr, Clarksfield; Isaac P. Case, New London; Samuel Brown, Greenwich; Philip Moffit, Fairfield; Abijah Rundell Bronson; F. Forsyth, James Williams, Moses Kimball, T. B. Sturges, D. G. Raitt, and Lewis M. Howard, Norwalk.

At this early date Huron County boasted, among other public institutions, of an Auxiliary Bible Society, and at a meeting held in the village of Milan June 19, among other business the following officers were chosen for the ensuing year: President, Elder Asahel Morse; Vice Presidents, John Fuller, F. D. Parish, D. Higgins and P. Adams; Treasurer, John Seymour; Corresponding Secretary, Warren Jenkins; Depository, John Kennan; Recording Secretary, D. Gibbs; Directors, Ebenezer Andrews, Eleutheros Cooke, Ira Curtiss, Edward Baker, A. B. Harris, C. Smith, James Hamilton, Isaac Darling Wm. Spears, Justus Minor, H. Buckingham, Sebastian Adams, B. Sturtevant, David Dow and Samuel Husted.

From the paper of July 13, we extract the following particulars of the celebration of the 4th (or rather 5th) of July, in accordance with the wishes of the meeting mentioned above:

"The morn was ushered in by vollies of musketry, and the sound of martial music. * * * At about 12 o'clock a procession was formed in front of Mr. Jenney's hotel, of a large concourse of ladies and gentlemen, preceded by Capt. Howard's Company of Light Infantry and a band of music, and moved to the Court House. The Throne of Grace was addressed by the Rev. Mr. Johnson, the Declaration of Independence read by Moses Kimball, Esq., and a very appropriate oration delivered by Eleutheros Cooke, Esq. After which the company repaired, in order, to a handsome bower erected on the Public Green, where an *excellent Dinner* was provided by Mr. Jenney — after partaking of which, a number of patriotic toasts were drank, amid *cheers* and *vollies of musketry.*

At this time the population of Norwalk Corporation was 310 souls, 'including 10 aliens and 1 free black;' whole number in the township, 901. The following list gives the number of inhabitants in the different townships of what is now Huron County, so far as the same was published: Ridgefield, 842; Lyme, 648; Townsend, 202; Peru, 615; Bronson, 468; New Haven, 615; Greenfield 525; Norwich, 104; Ripley, 176; Sherman, 153; Fairfield, 412; Fitchville, 337; Hartland, 131; Wakeman, 242; Greenwich, 416; New London, 407; Clarksfield, 368. Sandusky 'City' had a population numbering 593.

At a State and County election held on the 12th of October, of this year, James Williams was elected County Auditor, B. Sturtevant, Commissioner, and Luke Keeler, Coroner. Duncan McArthur received a majority of votes for Governor of Ohio, and was elected; S. M. Lockwood received a majority for State Senator; George G. Baker was elected Representative in the Legislature. Schuyler Van Rensselaer was at the same election chosen Justice of the Peace for Ridgefield township.

Toward the close of the year, it was customary, we suppose, even so long ago as 1830, to "square accounts;" at least one person used the columns of the Reflector for the purpose of conveying a hint to delinquents, as the following dun illustrates:

"CAUTION.—My friends are too backward about taking receipts. I shall be obliged to crowd them upon some of my customers soon, or my accounts will be placed in the *Debtor's Mill*, where, it is well known, the *toll* does not come out of the *grist*. O. JENNEY."

OBITUARY RECORD OF FITCHVILLE TOWNSHIP PIONEERS.

REPORTED BY EBENEZER OSBORN.

Abraham Mead, who cut the first tree in Fitchville, was born in South Salem, Westchester county, N. Y. April, 16th, 1774. He came to this Township on the 7th day of May, 1817. He afterwards moved to the township of Norwalk, and there died, January 15th, 1851, aged 76 years.

Deborah, the wife of Abraham Mead, was born in Carmel, Putnam county, New York, November, 5th, 1779, and died in Fitchville July 23, 1823. This was the first death in Fitchville.

Mary, the daughter of Abraham Mead, died in Fitchville, November 22, 1823, aged 17 years. This was the second death in Fitchville.

Alson Mead, the son of Abraham Mead, died in Bronson.

Peter Mead, was born in Greenwich, Fairfield county, Connecticut, in 1781, and emigrated to Fitchville in 1817, where he died in 1854, aged 73 years. His wife also died there.

Newbury Mead, the son of Peter Mead, was born in Greenwich, Fairfield county, Connecticut, in 1804, and died in Fitchville in 1856, aged 52 years.

Mary, the daughter of Peter Mead, was born in Fitchville, in 1823, and died in Fitchville, in 1848, aged 25 years. She was the first white child born in Fitchville.

Abijah Palmer was born in Greenwich, Fairfield county, Connecticut, in 1773, and died in Fitchville. Oct. 18th, 1840, aged 67 years. He settled in this township, in 1818.

Clarinda, the wife of Abijah Palmer, was born in 1783, in Dutchess county, New York. She died in Fitchville, September 13th, 1863, aged 79 years.

Robert, the son of Abijah Palmer, was born in Greenwich, Fairfield county, Connecticut, in 1799, and was killed by the cars in Michigan, near New Buffalo county, in 1857, aged 59 years.

Tamia, the wife of A. G Post, daughter of Abijah Palmer, was born in Genoa, Cayuga county, New York, in 1800, and died in Fitchville, April 1st, 1836, aged 36 years.

Caroline, daughter of Abijah Palmer was born in Genoa, Cayuga county, in 1805, and died in Fitchville, May, 1840, aged 35 years.

Ann, the wife of Ebenezer Osborn,

daughter of Abijah Palmer was born in Genoa, Cayuga county, New York, Sept. 1809, and died in Fitchville, January 23, 1863, aged 53 years.

Maria, the wife of Moses Foot, daughter of Abijah Palmer, was born in Genoa Cayuga county, New York, in 1816, and died in Fitchville, April 16th, 1849, aged 33 years.

Sarah, the wife of Leonard Briggs, daughter of Abijah Palmer, was born in Genoa, Cayuga county, New York, in 1818, and died in Michigan in 1757, aged 39 years.

Allen Johnson was born in Lenox, Massachusetts, May 9th, 1791, and died in Fitchville, Sept. 21, 1855, aged 64 years.

He emigrated to this township in June, 1823.

Delia H. Miner was born in Greenwich, Fairfield county, Conn. October 5th, 1783. She emigrated to this township in 1818, and died in Fitchville, September 2, 1834, aged 51 years.

Alva Palmer was born in Greenwich, Fairfield county, Connecticut, May 1st, 1794. He emigrated to this township in 1818, and died in Fitchville May 27, 1827, aged 33 years.

Linus Palmer was born in Greenwich, Fairfield county, Connecticut, in 1802. He emigrated to this township in 1818, and died in Fitchville, April 15th, 1860, aged 58 years.

Elizabeth Eaton, the wife of Abijah Eaton was born in Mason, Hillsborough county, New Hampshire, in the year 1770, and emigrated to this township in 1823, and died in Fitchville, February 1st, 1859, aged 89 years.

William Eaton was born in Mason, Hillsborough county, New Hampshire, in 1803, and emigrated to this township in 1824, and died in Michigan, in 1863, aged 69 years.

Dolly, the wife of Reuben Tower, was born in Dorset, Bennington county, Vermont, May 30th, 1799. She emigrated to this township in 1824, and died in Illinois, in Nov. 1859, aged 60 years.

Joseph Washburn was born in Orange county, New York, January 3d, 1799, and emigrated to this township in 1820, and died in Fitchville, February 8th, 1852, aged 53 years.

W. W. Watros was born in Conn., September 8th, 1795, emigrated to this township in 1816, and died in Fitchville, April 30th, 1850, aged 65 years.

Gilbert Martin was born in Westchester county, New York, June 15, 1781, emigrated to this township in 1821, and died in Fitchville, August 20th, 1830, aged 49 years.

Hannah, the wife of Gilbert Martin, was born in Orange county, New York, May 22d, 1799, and died in Fitchville, April 28th, 1853, aged 54 years.

Maria, the wife of Union White, daughter of Gilbert Martin, was born in Ulster county, New York, July 30th, 1817, and died in Fitchville, May, 9th, 1840, aged 23 years.

Matilda, the wife of Harvey Smith, daughter of Gilbert Martin, was born in Ulster county New York, April 14th, 1819, and died in Fitchville November 8th, 1866, aged 47 years.

Walter, son of Gilbert Martin, was born in Fitchville, December 14th, 1822, and died in Fitchville, September 23d, 1841, aged 19 years.

Henry Morgan was born in New York in 1800, emigrated to this township in 1823, and died in Fitchville, November, 17th, 1841, aged 41 years.

Austin Ward was born in Winchester, Litchfield, county, Conn., in 1796, emigrated to this township in 1818, and died in Fitchville, Sept. 30th, 1857, aged 61 years.

Vetty, the wife of Austin Ward, daughter of Ebenezer Green, was born in Greenwich, Fairfield county, Connecticut, in 1800, and emigrated

to this township in 1823, and died in Fitchville, May 20th, 1861, aged 61 years.

Ebenezer Green was born in Salem, Westchester county, New York, September, 22d, 1777, emigrated to this township in 1823, and died in Michigan, March 17th, 1841, aged 63 years.

Ruth, the wife of Ebenezer Green, was born in New Canaan, Fairfield county, Connecticut, in 1775, and died in Fitchville May, 1829, aged 57 years.

Silas Green was born in Greenwich, Fairfield, county, Connecticut, in 1804, emigrated to this township, in 1822, and died in Michigan.

Daniel Ward was born in Winchester, Litchfield county, Conn., in 1794, and emigrated to this township in 1818. He died in Michigan.

Lewis Green, the son of Amos Green, was born in Lake Pleasant, Hamilton county, New York, Feb., 21st, 1805, and emigrated to this township in 1824, and died with the cholera in Fitchville in 1834 aged 29 years.

Jabez Denton was born in Greenwich, Fairfield county, Connecticut, in 1767, emigrated to this township in 1821, and died in Fitchville, in 1859, aged 90 years.

Rachel, the wife of Jabez Denton, was born in Greenwich, Fairfield county, Connecticut, and died in Fitchville, aged 89 years.

The children of Jabez Denton, were Mary Ferman, Hannah Fosdick, William and Wilbor Denton.

Lewis Barnes was born in Vermont, and settled in this township in 1824, and died in Fitchville, August 16th, 1854.

Sally, the wife of Lewis Barnes, was born in Vermont, and died in Fitchville, April 10th, 1857.

Charles Lyon was born in Greenwich, Fairfield county, Connecticut, and settled in this township in 1819, and died here in 1844.

Deborah, the wife of Charles Lyon, was born in Greenwich, Fairfield county, Connecticut, and died in Fitchville in 1847.

Julia A. Briscoe, the wife of Rundel Palmer, was born in Southbury, Connecticut, March 30th, 1791, and emigrated to this township with her husband in 1818, and died while on a visit to her friends in the State of New York, in June 1851, aged 60 years.

Isaac, son of Rundel Palmer, was born in North Castle, Westchester county New York, in 1811, and died in Fitchville in September 1867, aged 56 years.

Marcus, son of Rundel Palmer, was born in Fitchville in 1820, and was lost in the woods and perished with cold on the night of November 20th, 1825, aged 5 years.

Hiram A. Curtis and his wife emigrated to this township in 1820. She died here in 1846.

Jotham, son of Hiram A. Curtis, was accidentally shot in Fitchville by Chester Maiz, his brother-in-law, while hunting in the woods, in 1841.

Of the other early settlers who died in Fitchville, were Francis Kies and wife, Isaac Woodruff and wife, Harry Hickox and wife, Amos Reynolds, Joseph Tidd and wife, James Barker and wife, John Barnes, Joseph Pickard and wife, and Absalom Colman and wife.

MEMBERS OF THE FIRE LANDS HISTORICAL SOCIETY.

CONTINUED FROM VOLUME 8TH.

NAMES.	RESIDENCE.	WHERE AND WHEN BORN.	WHEN AND WHERE FIRST SETTLED ON FIRE LANDS.
Baker, Hiram	Bellevue,	Oct. 16, 1798.	Lyme, Huron Co, 1815.
Barnes, Polly	Wakeman,	Southbury, Conn., 1800.	Wakeman, July, 1828.
Bright, Mrs. Fanny	Wakeman,	Essex Co., N. Y.	Cleveland, April, 12, 1863
Beecher, Fanny M.	Wakeman,	Wakeman, June 18, 1827.	Wakeman, Jan. 1, 1850.
Beebe, Martin	Wakeman,	Adrian, Mich., Sept. 1, 1836.	Norwich.
Butler, Russell W.	Berlin,	Stafford, N. Y., July 25, 1815.	Florence, 1835.
Barker, Nancy	Ripley,	Onondaga Co., N. Y., 1810.	Greenwich, 1822.
Bennett, H. S.	Wakeman,	Brownsville, Pa.	Wakeman, Oct. 1863.
Brainerd, Sarah J,	Berlin,	New York.	Berlin, May, 1862.
Baker, Jeremiah	Florence,	Tollard, Conn., Dec. 14, 1789.	Florence, July 20, 1820.
Burt, John	York, O.	New London Co., Conn. 1793.	York Sandusky Co. O.
Bennett, Mary A.	Clyde, O.	Middlebury, W. Feb., 27, 1809	Sandusky, 1833.
Beymer, Mrs. Ruth	Clyde, O.	Mt. Vernon, O., 1811.	N. Haven Huron Co. 1815
Buckland, Ralph P.	Fremont, O.	Leyden, Mass., Jan. 20, 1812.	Brought to Ohio in 1813.
Curtis, Wm. L.	Clyde, O.	Chittenden Co., Vt., 1819	N. Haven Huron Co. 1832
Curtiss, H. A.	Fitchville,	Chenango Co., N. Y., 1797.	1820.
Comstock, Oliver	Clyde, O.	New London Co. Conn., 1791.	York, Sandusky Co., O.
Chase, Wm.	Fitchville, O.	Green Co., N. Y., 1809.	1836
Crittenden, C. C.	Fitchville, O.	New York, April 1, 1807,	Fitchville, Jan. 25, 1831.
Clark, D. S.	Wakeman,	Orange, Conn., April 3, 1828.	Wakeman, 1856.
Clark, Ruth Ann	Wakeman,	Woodbury Conn., Aug., 1804.	Wakeman, May 30, 1822.
Chapman, J. F.	Clyde, O.	Westfield, O., 1819.	
Cleveland, James	Clyde, O.	New York, 1806.	Lyme, Huron Co., 1819.
Coe, M. M.	Clyde, O.	Bergen Co., N. J. March, 1797	
Donaldson, M. A.	Clyde, O.	Granville, Mass., April, 1800.	York, Sandusky Co., O.
Denton, Elias	Wakeman,	Greenwich, Conn., Feb. 1802.	Fitchville, May 31, 1821.
Dana, D. H.	Green Springs	Coos Co., Vt., 1798.	Green Springs, O.
Dewey, Oneida	Sandusky, O.	Doughton Mass., Sept., 1787	Sandusky, June. 1833.
Eaton, C. G.	Clyde, O.	New Hampshire, 1823.	Licking Co., 1840.
Fenn, Amos	Clyde, O.	Litchfield Co. Conn., 1793.	Sandusky City, 1817.
Foot, Tamezen	Fitchville,	Hamilton Co., Mass., 1801.	Fitchville, 1832.
French, A. B.	Clyde, O.	Farmington, O., 1839.	Clyde, 1859.
French, Erastus	Wakeman,	Southbury, Conn., Sept. 1797	Wakeman, Oct. 26, 1817.
Fisk, Leonard	Berlin,	Scituate, R. I., Aug. 12, 1811.	Berlin, May 17, 1840.
Fisk, W. C.	Berlin,	Scituate, R. I., May 1, 1809.	Berlin, May 17, 1840.
French, S. C.	Wakeman,	Wakeman, March 14, 1834.	
Foster, Shelemith	Florence,	Fairfield, Vt., May 14, 1808.	1853.
Foster, Sally (Smith)	Florence,	Benton, Ontario Co. N. Y. 1811	New Lodon, March 1816.
Grover, Truman	Green Creek,	Buffalo, N. Y. March 13, 1810.	Green Creek, 1826.
Green, Zalmon	Fitchville,	Connecticut,	Fitchville, Sept. 1826.
Green, Abigail T.	Fitchville,	Wilmington, Vt. 1813.	Fitchville, 1830.
Green, Cyrus C.	Fitchville,	Hamilton Co., N. Y.	Fitchville, 1826.
Gale, W. H.	Clyde, O.	Vermont, 1814.	Sandusky Co., 1833.
George, Moses	Clyde, O.	Stafford Vt. Aug. 3, 1799.	Huron Co.,
George, Joseph	Clyde, O.	Stafford, Vt., Feb. 4, 1784.	Bellevue, March, 1815.
Harris, William	Clyde, O.	Columbia Co. Pa. Jan. 16 1801	
Harris, John	Wakeman,	Springfield, O., July, 29, 1826.	Wakeman, April 1, 1860.
Hall, Alvan C.	Wakeman,	Brimfield, Portage Co., 1818.	Wakeman, 1836.
Hanford, E. D.	Wakeman,	Wakeman, May, 15, 1839.	
Howard, Wm. S.	Wakeman,	Portage Co. O., June 18, 1814.	Hartland, Huron Co.,
Hakes, Samuel A.	Fairfield,	Columbiana Co., N. Y., 1790.	Bronson, 1840.

NAMES.	RESIDENCE.	WHERE AND WHEN BORN.	WHEN AND WHERE FIRST SETTLED ON FIRE LANDS.
Hill, Benjamim	N. Fairfield,	New Haven Co., Conn., 1796.	Clarksfield, Feb. 7, 1827.
Husted, Alonzo	Lyme,	Scoharie, N. Y.	Lyme, 1833.
Hoit, Wm. T.	Lyme,	Columbus, Ind., Dec. 20, 1833.	Lyme, May 26, 1865.
Hendry, Mrs. J. A.	Sandusky, O.	Penfield, O., Aug. 1823.	Sandusky, Aug. 16, 1848.
Harkman, Mary L.	Clyde, O.	Ontario Co., N. Y., 1818.	Monroeville, June, 1839.
Hendry, A. W.	Sandusky, O.	Erie Co., N. Y., March, 1820.	Sandusky, Nov. 1843.
Jackson, Amanda	Clyde, O.	Onondaga Co., N. Y., 1801.	Huron Co., March, 1815.
Johnson, Marinda	Wakeman,	Southbury, Conn., Dec. 1802.	Wakeman, June, 1819.
Judson, James C.	Florence,	Huntington, Conn., 1795.	Florence, Oct. 1, 1825.
Johnson, A. S.	New London,	New York, March 29, 1829.	Hartland, Dec. 25, 1835.
Johnson, A. B.	Fitchville,	New York, Green Co., 1820.	Fitchville, 1823.
Knapp, W. A.	Fitchville,	New York, Feb. 14, 1816.	Fitchville, Oct. 1, 1846.
Lefevre, John	Clyde, O.	Chester Co., Pa., Dec. 5, 1807.	
Louis, Luce	Wakeman,	Oneida Co., N. Y., Oct. 1811.	Wakeman, 1834.
Lay, W. E.	Clyde, O.	Hector, Seneca Co., 1809.	Huron Co., 1816.
Lemmon, W. B.	Clyde, O.	New York, 1808.	Sandusky Co., 1826.
Leet, W.	Bellevue, O.	June 14, 1820.	Beaver, Beaver Co., Pa.
Laughlin, David	Fitchville, O.	Jefferson, O., 1815.	Fitchville, 1828.
Lakins, George	Berlin,	New York.	Berlin, 1836.
Lemmon, J. M.	Clyde, O.	Townsend, Seneca Co., O.,	
Mead, Luther	Greenwich,	Greenwich, Conn., 1790.	Greenwich O., 1830.
Mead, T. L.	Greenwich,	Greenwich, Huron Co., 1830.	
Miller, Lyman	Clyde, O.	New York, 1813.	Huron, 1814.
Meigg, J. B.	Clyde, O.	Ontario Co., N. Y., 1801.	Sandusky Co., 1823.
Marks, Edward	Wakeman,	Wallingford Conn., Nov. 1810.	Wakeman, April, 1837.
Marks, Jane	Wakeman,	New London Huron Co., 1819.	
Malcom, John	Clyde, O.	Aberdeen, Scotland, 1821.	Ruggles, July 20, 1837.
North, Asahel	Clyde, O.	New York, 1799.	Norwalk, 1854.
Owen, Mahala	Clyde, O.	Ontario Co., N. Y., 1806.	Norwalk, 1836.
Pierce, David S.	Wakeman,	Wakeman, May 11, 1825.	
Parketon, L. K.	Wakeman,	Fairfield Co., Conn., 1801.	Greenwich, May, 1838.
Pierce, Mrs. L. B.	Wakeman,	Southbury, Conn., Sept. 1807.	Wakeman, June 11, 1817.
Perrin, Z.	Clyde, O.	New York, 1826.	Clyde.
Palmer, Levi	Fitchville,	Fairfield Co., Conn., 1789.	Fitchville, 1827.
Pierce, H. B.	Fitchville,	Rutford Co., Vermont, 1802	1832.
Pratt, De Morris	Fitchville,	Washington Co., N. Y. 1806.	Fitchville, May, 1835.
Pratt, Mary Roberts	Fitchville,	Berkshire Co., Mass., 1810.	Fitchville, May, 1835.
Paine, George	Ripley,	Erie Co, N. Y., 1817.	Ripley, 1835.
Paine, Cynthia I.	Ripley,	Onondaga Co., N. Y., 1821.	Ripley, 1826.
Russell, Sybil	Clyde, O.	Littleton, N. H. April 24, 1807.	Thompson, Sen. Co.. 1818.
Rathbun, W. G.	Clyde, O.	Clyde, O., Feb. 20, 1829.	Lorain Co., 1845.
Raymond, Wm.	Seneca Co,	Steuben Co., N. Y. 1807.	
Rhodes, G. S.	Clyde, O.	New York, 1828.	Medina Co., O. 1837.
Rumsey, David	Fitchville, O.	Seneca Co., N. Y., 1810.	1835.
Rathbun, John	Fitchville, O.	Cayuga Co., N. Y. 1820.	Ruggles, 1840.
Russell, Norton	Clyde, O.	Ontario Co., N. Y. 1801.	York Tp., Sand. Co., O.
Rule, John Henry	Norwalk,	Haddington, Scotland, 1794.	Norwalk, May 18, 1832.
Rule, Deborah	Norwalk,	Providence, R. I., 1790.	Norwalk, May 18, 1832.
Rule, James H.	Norwalk,	Cayuga Co., N. Y., June, 1828.	Norwalk, May 18, 1832.
Russell, Wm. S.	Clyde, O.	New York, 1803.	
Stark, Mrs. Adelia	Clyde, O.	Livingston Co., N. Y.	
Steward, George H.	Clyde, O.	Fish Island, N. Y., 1805.	York Tp., Sand. Co., 1828.
Skellenger, Sarah E.	New London,	Orleans Co., N. Y. Jan. 1847.	New London, 1854.
Sheldon, Rufus	Greenwich,	Oneida Co., N. Y., 1809.	Greenwich, O., 1824.
Snow, Sparrow	Hartland,	Barnstable Co., Mass., 1805.	Hartland, 1843.
Sanford, C. G.	Townsend,	New York, 1819.	Sandusky Co., 1832.
Swan, Joseph	Clyde, O.	New York, 1818.	Portland, 1832.
Sherman, Geo. B.	Wakeman,	Wakeman, Aug. 18, 1828.	Wakeman, Nov. 18, 1851

NAMES.	RESIDENCE.	WHERE AND WHEN BORN.	WHEN AND WHERE FIRST SETTLED ON FIRE LANDS.
Strong, Susan A.	Wakeman,	Woodbury, Conn., June, 1802	Wakeman, 1827.
Todd, Fanny	Wakeman,	Litchfield, Conn., Oct. 26, 1805	Wakeman, Sept. 1827.
Vail, Elmira	Fairfield,	New York.	Fairfield, Sept. 1825.
Vincent, Harry	Clyde, O.	Wayne Co., N. Y. 1822.	
Weeks, William	Clyde, O.	Tompkin's Co. N. Y. Jan. 1818	Fitchville, 1829.
Waldron, Julia A.	Townsend,	Tompkin's Co. N. Y. July 1822	Townsend, Nov. 16, 1830.
Washburn, Henry G.	Greenwich,	New York, 1813.	Greenwich, July 16, 1830,
Watros, Nancy	Fitchville,	Oneida Co., N. Y., 1797.	Fitchville, 1817.
Wood, Sarah P.	Fitchville,	Fitchville, June 24, 1839.	
Walls, M. I.	Clyde, O.	Pennsylvania, 1833.	Firelands, 1834.
Wells, Francis J.	Wakeman,	Windsor Co., Sept. 16, 1813.	Florence, May 15, 1825.
Wells, Samuel	Wakeman,	Columbiana Co., O. Aug. 1805	Wakeman, Nov. 1846.
Wheeler, Johnson	Crown Pt. Ind.	New Haven Co., Conn. 1797.	Townsend, Jan. 1824.
Wells, Ann	Wakeman,	Florence, Feb. 17, 1825.	
Waugh, Mindwell	Wakeman,	Stowbridge, Mass., Oct, 1796.	Wakeman, 1832.
Waugh, Lawson	Wakeman,	Camden, N. Y., March, 9, 1809	Wakeman, May 5, 1843.
Waugh, Delia M.	Wakeman,	Madison Co., N. Y. July 1806	
Wells, Sarah Ann	Wakeman,	Florence, Erie Co. Aug. 1850.	Wakeman, 1857.
Zahm, A. Louis	Clyde, O.	St. Joseph Co. Ind., Sept. 1844	

THE LAST WOLF OF HURON COUNTY.

BY ROB'T B. WARE.

Some six months since, happening in the little village of Townsend, I attended a meeting of the "Fire Lands Historical Society," then in session, at that place. The meeting was held in a small frame building—the Methodist church I believe—and was well attended by the members and friends of the Society. The Pioneers, over whose heads more than the allotted three score and ten had passed, were seated in the midst of their children and grand-children; happy family circles, reaching back to the early history of the State, uniting the past to the present and future. It was an interesting re-union of old people, to talk of old times and old men, to tell their children and their children's children how their sires battled in the wilderness against wild beasts and wilder men. With what pride they spoke of the result of their labors, and pointed to the fertile farms and spacious mansions they were soon to leave a heritage to those who came after them!

The stories, scraps of history, anecdotes and incidents, given at the

Townsend meeting were many, and all were replete with interest, and from time to time will be jotted down for the columns of the REGISTER. To-day is given the following

STORY OF A PIONEER.

Some twenty-five or thirty years ago, about the time the Pioneers of Huron county were beginning to turn their attention to wool growing, a strange animal made its appearance in these parts. For a long time it puzzled the settlers to decide what animal it was. Several persons testified they had been met by, and narrowly escaped from it, and they were all unanimous in declaring it as of immense size, huge proportions, and terrible aspect; an animal that no man would be justified in attacking single-handed, and if a man, (such was the opinion of the people,) should meet and attack it, it would be bad for the man.

On several occasions the male population of the settlements hereabouts, turned out to hunt it down, but it always kept out of the way of such hunting parties, and the only reward the hunters met was hunger and disappointment. During the winter, one of these hunting parties got on its track and ran it on the ice of Lake Erie, near Huron; and those in pursuit reported, when they returned, that its feet made prints in the ice resembling horse hoofs, and struck fire at every jump. Of course the women were frightened beyond measure, and the story ran like wild-fire throughout the settlements. Old horse shoes were tacked over every door and chimney place, and the women and little folks ventured only on pressing occasions out of doors at night. On the cold blustering nights of winter, families would gather about the large fireplaces of their cabins and talk of the strange animal and its strange doings. The parting salutation at night among the neighbors, "don't let the Old Boy catch you before you get home."

The winter was fast passing away and spring work must soon commence. Night succeeding night the sheep of the pioneers were killed, and the prospect for the spring clip of wool became poor, indeed. Upwards of sixty sheep had been destroyed in this immediate settlement, and the fiend of destruction was still at large. The pioneers resolved to form one more hunting party, composed of every man in the settlement, and if possible ferret the monster out. About the last days of winter the hunt commenced. Men and dogs plodded through the deep snow day and night. The chase opened at the Briggs settlement, at early light on Monday morning, and the trail was followed until Tuesday night; over a distance extending from the starting point, through Home Swamp, Greenfield, across the country and through the wilderness to Pigeon Roost At Pigeon Roost the hunters gave up the pursuit and resolved to let the animal, whatever it was, have all the sheep he wanted that winter. Each one returned to his home and hung up his horn and rifle, resolved never to take them down again to hunt the sheep-killer.

The previous fall a pioneer by the name of Briggs had moved into the settlement. Mr. Briggs was not then a wealthy man—few of the pioneers were. His property, when he arrived, with the exception of his household goods, consisted of ten superior sheep. During the fall he built his cabin and cleared a few acres of land for seed. By early spring half his sheep had been killed. No mode that he could devise for their protection had been successful, and day after day his little flock diminished in number. Daily, with gun on shoulder, he

scoured the woods in pursuit of the animal, but without success. Each evening he would return to his cabin, tired and discouraged. On one of these occasions, he found that during his absence his clearing had been visited and another of his sheep was gone. For weeks he watched his flock, with gun and dog by his side, almost day and night, but the thief came not. Entertaining the hope that the animal had disappeared forever, he gave up the watch, and returned to the labor of clearing up his section and improving his home.

One Sunday morning, in the early spring, not long after the big hunt, having nothing particularly to do at home, I started over to the Briggs settlement, as it was then called. In crossing the clearing, I suddenly came upon old man Briggs, skinning one of his sheep. It had been killed the previous night, and his flock of ten was now reduced to four. In pioneer times we all practiced hunting and trapping to some degree, and I was known hereabouts as "Reed, the Hunter." As I approached, Briggs quit his work, and telling me of his loss, requested me to return home, get my trap, bring it down to the clearing and catch the animal, which he was satisfied was in the neighborhood, and would speedily visit his flock again if it was not destroyed without delay. He continued to urge me, while engaged in skinning the sheep, and at length, much to the joy of Briggs, I resolved to return, get my trap, and do my best to catch the thief.

Up to that time I had never in all my life sprung a trap or fired a gun on the Sabbath, but here was a case in which necessity demanded immediate action, and having debated the matter thoroughly in my own mind, while Briggs was skinning his sheep, and feeling that if the animal was not taken at once Briggs would lose all his flock, I resolved, for once, to break the rule of my life, and for Briggs' sake, on that day to attempt to catch the thief. So home I went, and Briggs was soon gratified to see me returning through the clearing with my trap. After a careful examination of the ground by us both, it was found that the animal had crossed and recrossed a small stream running through the clearing, several times at the same place. So I placed my trap in such a position, and covered it up so carefully, that it would have been impossible for a man, much less an animal, to cross the creek at that place without putting his foot in it. I then returned home.

The next morning I was up bright and early, and off for the clearings. I must confess I felt some anxiety regarding the success of my trap. I was just a little ambitious then to sustain my character as a hunter, and if I could catch the animal that had done so much mischief, and an animal that the whole settlement had spent several days in hunting, there was no doubt that I would be famous throughout the settlement. I was young in those days, the country was new, and political fame unknown to us pioneers in the backwoods and Fire Lands of Ohio. We cleared our lands, built our cabins, tilled the soil, and then, whenever occasion offered, hunted and fished. Our wants were few; the iron rule of fashion did not guide us in our selection of dress, or employment. We did the labors heaven assigned us; honored our God, our families and ourselves. All were hunters from necessity, and a rifle in the hands of a man in those days was more common than the walking stick in the hands of men of to-day.

When I entered the clearing, I was met by Briggs; he had been to the trap; it had not been disturbed. We walked to the spot and I found it as he had said. Poor Briggs, he feared

the trap would be unsuccessful, and our last effort to catch our sagacious enemy result like our former ones—in failure. Bidding him be of good cheer and await the events of another night, we left the trap in place, and in company returned to his cabin. We found that his worthy wife had prepared breakfast, and there it was, warm and smoking on the table; consisting of corn bread, venison and cold water. We ate with a relish, such as is seldom known to young people of the present time. Our appetites had been sharpened by our walk in the frosty atmosphere of an early spring morning, and the food was composed of just such articles as would do a hungry man good and develop his muscle. My mind during the day was constantly on my trap and the probabilities of the attempt to capture our foe being successful. I am just a little afraid that I did not work much that Monday.

During the night I did not sleep much. Dreams of animals, of all descriptions, haunted my pillow; and long before daybreak I was out of bed and off for the clearing. I arrived at Briggs' cabin just as he was getting up; after waiting his appearance, we started for the creek, and on our arrival there we found that the trap was gone. Putting the dog on the trail, we soon found it, lodged in a thicket, almost a quarter of a mile off, and holding by the foot, between its iron jaws, a large, gray wolf. Briggs lost no time in shooting the life out of him and taking off his skin, which he used for many years as a saddle-blanket. Such was the career of the last wolf seen alive in Huron county. I secured all the credit desired for capturing him; and it seems that my old friends, by my being called upon to-day for this story, have not yet forgotten "Reed, the Hunter."

After the death of the wolf, the monster animal, seen and testified to by many, disappeared from Huron county. The big hunts were all over, and no animal has since been heard of whose feet strike fire on ice.—[Sandusky Register.

LIFE AMONG THE EARLY SETTLERS.

A correspondent of the Cincinnati *Gazette*, giving some sketches of pioneer times in the region of Lancaster, Ohio, says:

Physical prowess and courage were highly esteemed; and to be considered the best man in the settlement was not a bed of roses. A coward was heartily despised. But few of the "early settlers" but on some occasion, from neighborhood quarrel had tested his valor and endurance, and afterward the parties were the best of friends. This was not unnatural, as none but hardy adventurers, brave men, reckless of comforts, would seek the West in early days. And so independent in feelings were they—so peculiar in dress and person—so retired and

isolated their thoughts and ways—that a spirit of bravery and self-reliance was engendered. This, rude as it was, was not incompatible with kindness and generosity, and almost unselfishness. They shared all they had with the last emigrant, aided him in building his cabin, and logging his ground. This, from their peculiar condition, while it created independent feelings, produced necessary dependence, from the nature of the surroundings. One man alone could do but little. Associated men were indispensible in the heavy work of clearing the ground, removing the stumps, or building the necessary dwellings, on a newly opened farm, and all gave their time and labor; as most had, and all expected and needed, similar favors. There was none of the present over-reaching in trade speculations. A horse trade, exchange of guns, or agricultural implements, was about the extent of trading, as but little money was in circulation and that was reserved to pay for the land entered on long payments. Markets were inaccessible, and newly arrived emigrants absorbed the surplus produce. No laws for breach of peace, and the settlers made a law unto themselves. The stumps yet filled the streets of Lancaster, and if a man transgressed too far, he was ordered "to dig up and remove a stump," as a penalty, and there is no instance of a failure to comply with this new and unique law; and it resulted as should all laws, in the reformation of the offenders.

Corn was the great staple, affording sustenance for man and beast, and made whisky. No process in farming is so tedious as husking corn. After it is pulled and hauled home, the neighbors are expected to do this work. Each expected to be "warned" of the night, and as it was an affair of mutual assistance, this was all that was required. The corn was placed in a long row or rick, and on the arrival of all the huskers, in order to expedite the process and make the labor light, it was carefully divided in the middle and a rail placed there; captains selected who choose alternately the fastest huskers. Preliminary to all this, every man and boy on his arrival had the green glass quart whisky bottle handed him and was expected to drink. After the captains and their companies were selected, a chip was tossed in the air, on one side of which was spit—the choice of sides of the rail given him who was fortunate in the guess of "wet or dry" of the chip. After that the work commenced, and the captains walked up and down the rick—encouraging their men, in order to see who could complete their part first. Close to the rail the best huskers were placed, for as the corn on one side or the other was removed most expeditiously, the rail would gravitate and thus lengthen the other side. Occasionally a sly one would put his hand under the rail, drawing it to him, and thus increase his opponents labor. If he was detected in this, or any one was seen to throw unhusked corn over, it was charged, denied, the lie given, returned, and a fight then or immediately after the close settled the question of veracity. The struggle was fierce—the rivalry excessive. Many future acts of rascality had their foundation laid in what was then deemed innocent cheating of opponents. All the while the bottle circulated freely, and when the work was done, the victorious party placed their captain on their shoulders and carried him in triumph around the defeated party, yet engaged in their work. This often lead to fights, as men even in humble life, cannot bear taunts, and all closed by a supper prepared by

the women, of which all who were sober enough partook. After all the sober ones escorted the drunken home, and next night and for many succeeding ones, this scene was re-enacted, until all the corn in the neighborhood was shucked.

The log cabin raisings were also scenes of labor and love. To be a good "corner-man," i. e., to know how, expeditiously and well, to notch and ridge a log for the building, was esteemed most useful. Men pushed the logs on skids, and on its arrival at the building, the corner-men, with ready ax, shaped them; and to be first ready was always greeted by a cheer. Indeed, the end of the log that first reached its place on the building was cheered by the men pushing it. Many grave accidents resulted from haste, and when toward completion, and whisky had done its work, many fights resulted; but as soon as its fumes departed, its victims forgot or forgave any injuries received.

In such unassorted new communities, of course every variety of character was found, and every variety of pursuits was followed. It is told of a man who commenced the "grocery business," then, as now, principally selling whisky. He had never been to church, and kept his grocery open on Sunday. He was most importunately and kindly talked to by the "little preacher," who had drifted West, as the rest. He said he could not close on Sunday, as it was his *best day;* but said, if the preacher would tell him and appoint the Sunday, he would come to church and hear what he had to say interesting to him. The proposition was accepted, and the day appointed, and, dressed in his best, with his wife and child, he took his seat with great gravity. The church had but recently been organized, and a deacon Biglow—who had buried four wives East—was the principal man. The deacon's character was not above suspicion, and though some thought him "a great, good Christian in his heart," many believed him a "very heathen in his carnal part." The usual services were proceeded with, and the preacher in his sermon quoted extensively from the Scriptures (then, as now, not always applicable,) and among other quotations, was this: "Who has red eyes, who tarries long at the wine—who putteth the cup to his neighbors' lips," &c., on which, up jumped the grocery man and said: "That means me. I do it—it is my bnsiness." His wife pulled his coat and ordered him by signs and nods, to sit down, and he did, with the titter and winks of the whole congregation, and the bitter mortification of his good wife. The preacher proceeded, and quoted other Scripture, and of it was, "Who lieth in wait for his neighbor's wife—who seduceth his neighbor's daughter," &c. When on the instant, up jumped the grocer, and calling on Deacon Biglow, said, "get up Deacon, he means you now; I answered to my call, it is your turn now—get up Deacon, that's you." Of course this dispersed the crowd, to the astonishment of the grocer, who said: "Let every man and woman answer when called, as I did."

OBITUARY NOTICES.

WILLIAM KELLEY.

On the evening of Saturday, December 7th, 1867, William Kelley died at the residence of his son Hon. John Kelley, in Danbury township, Ottawa county, at the advanced age of eighty-eight years, less sixteen days. He suffered from no disease, but sank peacefully to rest under his weight of years. Mr. Kelley was born in Ireland, came to America when a lad, first stopped at Troy New York, and then settled in Sandusky city in the year 1818, living among the earliest settlers of this region. With the exception of a few years spent in Ottawa county Mr. Kelley resided in Sandusky, on Franklin Street, until three years ago when on account of his increasing infirmities he went to live with his son at Marblehead. He had been for many years a consistent member of the Methodist church, and was also a member of the Masonic order.

Few men in the common walks of life leave behind them a record of greater usefulness than this departed pioneer.

MRS. JULIA TAYLOR,

Died on October 28th, 1867 at her residence in Perkins Township, aged 81 years and 28 days.

She was born Septemper 30th, 1786, at Glastenburg, Connecticut. She moved to Ohio in the fall of 1815, and was among the earlier settlers of Perkins. As a wife and mother, she was kind and indulgent; as a friend and neighbor, steadfast and obliging. She was a most devoted follower of Christ, endeavoring always to leave an example worthy of imitation.

MRS. JANE BUCHANAN

Died on September 3d, 1867, at the residence of her son Harvey Buchanan in Norwalk Township, in the 86th year of her age.

The deceased was among our oldest residents, having, with her husband, Thos. Buchanan, (who attained the advanced age of 86 years,) emigrated from N. Y. to this Township in 1822. They had a family of eleven children, nine of whom still survive.

MRS. ELIZABETH DELAMATER

Widow of Nicholas Delamater, died in Norwalk Township, on Saturday September 7th, 1867, in the 90th year of her age.

Mrs. Delamater was born in Hyde Park, Duchess Co., N. Y., in 1778, and was married to Mr. Delamater at the early age of fifteen. They settled at Hyde Park, but removed to Sparta, Livingston Co., N. Y., where Mr. Delamater died, leaving his widow and a family of five sons and five daughters. She removed with her family to Ohio, and settled on the Western Reserve, where she suffered the usual privations and stern realities of a pioneer life. She was blessed with a numerous family of descendents, and lived to enjoy

the society of several of her great-grandchildren. She met death with the serenity of a christian who has passed the four score years and ten. And thus after a short illness of only a few days, she was gathered like a shock of corn, fully ripe.

MRS. GRACE PRENTISS

Died on November 5th, 1867, at the residence of her son, Turner Prentiss, near Monroeville, aged 101 years, 7 months and 7 days.

She was born in Mansville New London county, Connecticut, March 29th, 1767. Her maiden name was Grace Turner. She was married to Samuel Prentiss in that place in the year 1796, and moved with him to Plymouth Chneango county, New York, about the year 1827, and from thence they removed to Monroeville, Ohio, in the year 1849. At the time of her death she was probably the oldest person in this part of the State. She lived near New London when that place was destroyed by fire under orders of the traitor, Benedict Arnold, then commanding a part of the British Army. The incidents and hardships of the American Revolution and of the war of 1812 were fresh in her remembrance almost to the last days of her life. She lived ten years under the reign of King George III., then under the old Confederacy, and under every President from Washington to our present Chief Executive.

She had a family of six children, four of whom survive and are living in the vicinity of Monroeville—the oldest of her boys being himself 71 years of age. Mr. Prentiss died in 1854, aged 90 years, since which time she has lived with her son.—She retained her physical powers most remarkably. In her hundredth year she suffered a severe fall from the effects of which she had since been unable to walk; but she still dressed herself and took her usual food daily, sitting in a chair prepared for her, until within four or five days of her death. Her sight and hearing had been impaired for sevearl years, so that for a long time she had been deprived both of the privilege of reading, and of hearing conversation in an ordinary tone of voice. But her mental faculties were remarkably preserved till within a year or more, and even recently, she has recalled, with distinctness, scenes which took place towards a century ago!

For many years, by her love of the Bible and of prayer, and by the tone of her character, she had given evidence to her friends, of possessing a well-grounded Christian hope.

Very rarely indeed, is such an illustration of the sovereignty and goodness of God afforded, as in the case of this venerated mother, who had lived to see three generations and more than one-third of another, pass from existence.

AMMI PALMER

Died at Polk City, Iowa, recently, in the one hundred and fourth year of his age.

The *Des Moines Register* says of him: The Character and extreme longevity of the deceased, joined to the regard felt for the son, Rev. George W. Palmer, at whose residence he died,, led to a very general observance of the funeral, which took place on the following Tuesday, the stores and business places of the village being closed. Quite a number of old men from 70 to 80 were present.

The deceased was born at New Milford, Litchfield county, Connecticut, August 4, 1764. He was of a long-lived stock. He was reared on a farm. In his twenty-sixth year he moved to Columbia, Duchess county, New York, and the following year went to Great Barrington, Massa-

chusetts, where he remained for twenty years, and married and buried his first wife. The next twelve years he lived in Scopia, Central New York, where he married his second wife, the mother of three surviving children; Mrs. Louisa M. Fairbanks, of Cleveland, Rev. A. R. Palmer, Norwalk, O., and Rev. G. W. Palmer, of Polk City, Iowa. His second wife dying he removed to upper Canada, where he married again, and resided for seventeen years. Since the death of his third wife, and for the last thirty years, he has made his home with his children. In his one hundred and first year he went to Iowa with his son, Rev. Geo. Palmer, going from Ohio. He was a resident of Cleveland, during the ministry of his son, Rev. A. R. Palmer, in 1862 and 1863, with whom he lived.

His strength was remarkable, and continued to the last. At the age of 70 he ironed a heavy two-horse wagon, having a portion of his life worked at blacksmithing. A month before his death he could read the newspapers and a small-sized Bible with ease, by the aid of glasses. Three days before his death the aged patriarch could move himself upon his bed as if with the strength of his youth, and the struggle was hard to the last. Death fought his way, and every step was contested. At last the child cradled in the Housatonic Valley, after a pilgrimage of a hundred years, finds a resting-place on a pretty knoll overlooking the Des Moines river.

It is a suggestive fact that our nation is not as old as was this departed veteran. He always felt a deep interest in national affairs. He was first a Federalist, then a Whig, afterwards a Republican, and always believed in equal rights. He voted first for Washington and last for the martyred Lincoln. For the last few years he has been waiting the Lord's time, ready and wishing to go. When asked for a message to his absent children, he replied, "Tell them to put their trust in God." This is considered the utterance of a hundred years of experience and reflection, now made more weighty by the veteran's death.

CHARLES HUBBELL

Died in Monroeville on the morning of Saturday, November 30th, 1867, aged 80 years and nearly 7 months. A corresdondent there, (Rev. D. E. Wells,) gives the following account of this venerable and estimable pioneer:

Mr. Hubbell was born in May, 1787, in Vermont. He came to Ohio with his family in 1817, and settled upon the farm near Monroeville, where he lived nearly fifty years. He came to occupy land which his father had procured upon the territory well known as the "Firelands." At that time but one house had been erected upon the present site of Monroeville. His removal here from the east was attended with great hardship; his journey occupying 35 days, a distance which can now be traveled in 24 hours. On some days with the utmost exertion, they advanced only 4 or 5 miles. His first home here was in a little log cabin, with a single square room in it, scarcely high enough for a person to stand erect in. Bears, rattlesnakes, &c., had held almost undisputed possession of the country round about. The work of breaking up the prairie, before undisturbed by man, with the grass standing higher than his head, was promptly commenced—even 10 or 12 yoke of oxen being attached to a single plow while the sod was being turned for the first time. It was in connection with the hardship and exposure of that pioneer life that his constitution received an injury, from the effects of which he suffered se-

verely for many years, and which, at least, hastened his death.

He was greatly respected by all who knew him for his moral worth, and had held various offices of trust and responsibility in the community.

His friendly encouragement was early given to the ministers of the gospel, as they came here to plant the institutions of religion. In 1839, he took an active part in the erection of the house of worship belonging to the "First Presbyterian Church of Ridgefield." In 1840, the year following, he became a member of that church, and from that time maintained an earnest Christian life. His seat in the house of God at the public services was seldom, if ever vacant. He was a regular attendant upon the Sabbath School until he was over 80 years of age.

The church and community generally, and his large circle of relatives, have reason to be thankful that his life of usefulness was so remarkably prolonged.

His sufferings during his last illness were protracted and severe, yet throughout the whole he exhibited an unfaltering trust in the Savior, a patient submissiveness, and a triumphant hope of soon entering upon the Christian's rest. The Biographer of the "Fire Lands Historical Society" must announce at the ensuing meeting of Pioneers, that another member of 50 years standing as a pioneer, has "rested from his labors". One of his last undertakings was to secure a long list of subscribers for the VIIIth volume of the transactions of that Society, of which he had been a member since its organization.

"Our fathers! where are they—
With all they called their own?
Their joys and griefs, and hopes and cares,
And wealth and honor—gone.

God of our fathers! hear,
Thou everlasting Friend!
While we, as on life's utmost verge,
Our souls to Thee commend.

Of all the pious dead,
May we their footsteps trace,
Till with them in the land of light,
We dwell before Thy face."

EBENEZER M. BARNUM

Died in Clarksfield on the morning of the 4th of March, 1868, in the 74th year of his age. He was born in Danbury, Conn., Oct. 29th, 1794. He was early thrown upon his own recources to make his way through life, his father dying when he was but two years old and his mother when he was about thirteen years old.

At seven years of age he went to live with Jonas Benedict, father of Platt Benedict, Esq., late of Norwalk, Ohio, and continued to reside with him until he was fifteen years old, when he became an apprentice to the hatting trade, serving his time with Samuel Tweedy in Danbury. On the 12th of November, 1815 he married Betsey Nickerson. After his marriage he continued working at his trade in Danbury for two or three years then moved to New York City where they remained for about one year.

At this time his brother, Levi Barnum who was in business in Pittsburg, and who had purchased a tract of land in Clarksfield, made such representations of the western country and its advantages, as induced him and his brother, Eli Barnum, to determine to make it their future home. The brothers with their families left New York in June 1819, going by stage to Philadelphia, there hiring a team to take them as far as Pittsburg. At this place ox teams were purchased, and the brothers set out on the balance of their journey Passing through New Lisbon and Wooster they entered Huron county at New Haven. So little was known of the location of the township at the time, that they found it impossible to ascertain the exact location of Clarksfield until they reached Peru.

The journey from Pittsburg to Clarksfield was made in about fourteen days. The town was decidedly new, the first white man having settled there less than two years before, and an almost unbroken forest was around them.

Soon after their arrival, Mr. Barnum was attacked with chills and fever, a disease not uncommon in that early day, and so violent was the attack that his life was despaired of. After his recovery, his wife was also prostrated with the same complaint, and matters for a time looked somewhat gloomy; but trouble could not last always, and returning health dispelled the clouds around them.

The usual incidents of Pioneer life, its trials and self denials, have been often written and will not here be repeated.

Mr. Barnum worked at his trade for many years at the establishment of Henry Lockwood in Milan, part of the time his family with him at that place, and some of the time on his farm in Clarksfield. Mr. Barnum and his wife early identified themselves with the Christian Church and their doors were ever open and their house a home for the "Brethren."

By nature a thorough reformer, he was ever ready to work for the cause of Temperance, and to oppose as far as possible by his vote and influence the encroachments of slavery. Having been addicted to the use of tobacco, he gave it up and entirely abandoned it. A friend of the young, he labored hard for the cause of education.

Mr. Barnum and his wife lived together over fifty-two years, and had a family of eight children of whom four sons are still living, two in Missouri, one in Canada West, and one in Clarksfield.

He was kind, indulgent as a husband and father, respected as a neighbor, and a faithful worker in the Christian Church, with a kind word for all, and especially a pleasant greeting for the children. He was universally regarded for his warm hearted faithful character, and his funeral was attended by a large concourse of friends.

SAMUEL BRISTOL

Died at Florence on August 13th, 1867, in the 80th year of his age.

Mr. Bristol was one of the Pioneer settlers of Wakeman having, together with Mr. Agustine Canfield and Amial P. Pierce, come into the township in the summer of 1817.

He was born in Roxbury, Connecticut, August 20th, 1787. When 13 years of age his parents moved to New Jersey where his father died in the course of a year and the widow and children returned to Connecticut. At 14 years of age he went to live with Mr. Joel Pierce, of South Britian and continued with him until he became 21 years of age, laboring upon a farm. At the close of this period he received for his services, in addition to his clothing, $150.

He then took a farm of Mr. Bennet French to work upon shares, which he continued thus to work for about 9 years. In the meantime at 25 years of age he married Miss Eunice Sherman, who still survives him. He was then thirty years of age, and by untiring industry and economy had laid up about twelve hundred dollars. He made arrangements to remove to Ohio with his wife and only child about three years of age. In connection with six others, he bought one fourth part of the township of Wakeman, and by the advice of Mr. Luther Harris then living in Vermillion, who had taken a view of the land, they selected the north west section of the Township. Mr. Bristol paid for his portion of the purchase before leaving Connecticut, amounting to $1000, having left barely enough to pay the expenses of transporting his family to his new

farm. He started upon this journey with two yoke of oxen, and one horse ahead, on the 28th of May, and reached his journey's end on the 4th of July, making the journey in 38 days. Two other families were in the township when they arrived, viz: Messrs. Pierce and Canfield The first season he put up a log house and cleared 3 acres of land, which he sowed with wheat. In clearing the ground for their house a pile of brush was made but a short distance from the door, one morning a large deer was discovered browsing upon the brush which was shot and a supply of meat for many days was thus obtained.

After the first year the produce of their own land supplied them with the necessaries and for the most part the comforts of life.

Mr. Bristol was of a retiring disposition, seldom mingling much in society or taking part in public affairs.

He was from his youth a hard laboring man and was not often prevented from work by sickness.

He never revisited his native place after coming to Ohio. By industry and economy he had laid by several thousand dollars that neither himself nor his companion need fear for the comforts of life should they live to be aged and infirm. But of this he was basely robbed by a set of scoundrels entering his house one evening, binding the inmates of his family and carrying off over $14,000 belonging to him and his son with whom he was living. His last sickness was the result of old age rather than of acute disease.

E. B.

UNION WHITE

Died on November 21st, 1867, at his residence in New London, Ohio, of Appoplexy, aged 61 years, 9 months and 17 days.

He was born February 14, 1806, in the Township of Westmoreland, Oneida County, New York, about ten miles from Utica.

In the winter of 1817, when only 11 years of age, he came with his father, Mr. John White and family, to Ohio, arriving at Norwalk in February, the whole journey having been made in a sleigh and occupying six weeks. Those of us who now travel that distance so rapidly by steam, have but a slight appreciation of the difficulties and trials attending so long a journey in those days, made over new and rough roads, and by paths, through the dense wilds of Northern Ohio and Western New York, when the only evidences of civilization were the lonely log huts of the hardy frontiersmen, scattered at great intervals along the wilderness way.

The first night after the arrival of Mr. John White and his family, they enjoyed the hospitality of Col. Asher Cole's father, who then lived between Underhill's mill and Peru. For the first two years after his arrival, Mr. John White lived in the same house with Mr. Reuben Pixley, in Bronson Township. Having in the meantime purchased the farm in Norwalk township, a little south of the village, and now owned by Huron County, he moved upon it and resided there eight or nine years.

Union White before he was 20 years of age went into business for himself, his first efforts in that direction being in carrying on an ashery, at which he remained two years. About the time of going into business and before he was twenty years old, on the 11th of December, 1825, he was married to Miss Lucy Matchett. After leaving the ashery, he worked for one year, a farm belonging to Mr. John Dillingham. He was next engaged in driving team and working in a distillery at Norwalk, for Messrs. Pickett, Latimer and Barney Carkuff. In 1831 or 1832, he

entered into copartnership with Messrs. Buckingham and Sturgess, for the purpose of selling goods in Fitchville. In about a year J. C. Curtiss, Sen., bought the interest of Messrs. Buckingham & Sturgess, and he and Mr. White continued the business until 1836, when they dissolved their partnership. Mr. White continued the business in connection with his brothers Lyman and Daniel, about ten years, after which he remained out of business one year. About the time of his dissolution with Curtiss and on the 30th day of December, 1836, he was married a second time to Maria Martin. While in business with his brothers, and on the 29th day of August, 1840, he married his third wife, Helen Martin. He was next a member of the firm of U. & L. White, selling goods at Lodi, Ohio, but attending himself to farming, until the year 1849, when he and James Martin formed a copartnership in the same business under the name of White & Martin. In 1856, he sold out and remained out of business one year, when he again became a member of the firm of U. & L. White, and sold goods at Tiffin, Ohio, until 1859, when he returned to Fitchville, and connected with the firm of D. D. Van Viehten & Co., sold goods for two years, after which he was engaged in the same business alone at Fitchville, until October 9th, 1865, when he removed to New London, where he continued in trade as a member of the firm of White, Chase & Co., until his death.

Thus is given a very brief account of the active life of this very active man. He was not only energetic but industrious, honest, temperate and prudent. One of the proudest days of his life was, when a mere boy, he had by his own exertions, possessed himself of a pair of buckskin breeches; and when he moved to Fitchville, he manufactured, with his axe and pocket knife, his household furniture. By his prudence and strict attention to business, he succeeded in amassing a large property. He was, at the time of his death, an earnest advocate of the principles of the Republican party, having left the Democratic party in 1848. He did not have while young, an opportunity to acquire even a common school education; but learned the multiplication table and how to write by the light of a hickory bark fire, during winter evenings; and being possessed of an iron constitution and untiring energy, overcame all obstacles.

C. P. W.

AARON ROWLAND

Died in Clarksfield, Huron County, Ohio, on the 2d of February, 1868, aged 87 years and 3 months.

He was born in Danbury, Conn., Nov. 1, 1780, and married Deborah Dean, January 1, 1800, at Carmel New York. With his family he started for Ohio, October 10th, 1818, and arrived in Clarksfield, Nov. 18, 1818. For two or three years he worked for Captain Samuel Husted in his grist mill, and was considered one of the best millers of that time in the country. In 1822 he moved on his farm two miles east of the mill and succeeded in clearing it up and making it a pleasant home in the wilderness. He toiled on his farm until the infirmities of age unfitted him for labor, when he sold it to his youngest son, and spent the rest of his life in the homes of his children of whom he had eight. His wife died December 28th, 1866, in the 86th year of her age. He was an active, earnest Christian.

When he first came to Clarksfield, he was one of the three first professors of religion among the settlers there. The other two were Captain Samuel Husted and his wife. He faithfully followed his Divine Master for over sixty years. His children

all survive him. The combined ages of his brothers and sisters now living are 445 years.

N. E. W.

JOHN H. RULE

Died in Norwalk Ohio, of paralysis, on the 16th of July, 1867, aged 74 years.

He was born in Scotland, and came from Cayuga County, N. Y., to the Fire Lands in the year 1832. He was buried by the Masonic fraternity with the honors due to him as an esteemed member of that order, and to his worth as a citizen.

WILLIAM GIBBS

Died at Milan, Ohio, on the 29th of January, 1868, of quick consumption, aged 76 years. He had been a resident of Milan for thirty-four years, was a worthy and much respected citizen, and an industrious farmer. He leaves to mourn his loss, an aged widow, five children—four sons and one daughter—and a large circle of relatives and friends.

His long and useful life was most honorably identified with the early history of the Fire Lands.

MRS. SUSANNAH AUSTIN

Died in Hartland, Huron County, Ohio, February 15th, 1868, aged 94 years, 15 days.

She was born in Stamford, Fairfield County, Conn., January 31st, 1774.

She possessed more than ordinary faculties with a vigorous mind and constitution, and a good education. Her writing was elegant, and looked like ancient copyplate. She was strong and active, doing most all her household work and was never *idle*. She was endowed with a wonderful memory, remembering things distinctly that occurred 70 and 80 years ago, with the events of the Revolutionary war. She could remember circumstances of that period more distinctly, than that of a later date. Last September she attended the Pioneer meeting in Fitchville, riding ten miles in the morning without appearing much fatigued. She was a great reader, and the Bible was her daily companion. Her Bible which was presented at the Pioneer meeting held in Fitchville last September, was published in the year 1745. It was presented to her by her mother from her grandmother and printed in old style. She had a taste for poetry and could repeat hundreds of verses. It did not seem any labor for her to learn it; by reading it over three or four times she could repeat it.

Though in her advanced age she had none of that peevish, petulant disposition which generally attends people in the decline of life, and was loved and respected by all.

She was the mother of 10 children, 52 grand-children, 45 great-grand-children, and 2 great-great-grand-children. She had 14 grand and great-grand sons in the Union Army. Yet with such a line of descendents, she attended the funeral of only two of her relatives, and they were of her husband and her father.

On her 94th birthday a family festival was held at the residence of her daughter Mrs. Philo Comstock, in Norwalk Township, Huron Co. There were present five generations, numbering in all thirty-nine persons. A sumptuous dinner was prepared for the party. At one table the mother and her children sat, and at another, the grand, great-grand, and great-great-grandchildren. It was a joyful occasion. The aged enjoyed its pastimes with the young.

After dinner was over, all assembled in the parlor, and a most impressive prayer was offered. All then joined in singing, "*When shall we all meet again*," and then they parted never to meet again on earth.

She was a member of the Congregational Church, a devoted Christian and was well prepared for the final change that awaited her. Calling her children to her bedside she blessed them, and dying as she had lived with blessings for all around her, she passed away to a blessed immortality with her Savior.

L. S. N.

CHARLES A. PRESTON

Died at his residence in Norwalk, Ohio, on Sunday June 14th, 1868, aged 52 years, 4 months and 23 days.

He was born in Nashua N. H., on the 22d day of January, 1816, and removed to Norwalk in December, 1819, with his father Samuel Preston, the pioneer publisher of the Norwalk *Reflector*. In the year 1834, he became one of the proprietors of that paper, and so continued in company with his father from that time to the year 1852, and from that to the year 1854, with his brother-in-law, Judge Wickham. He held the office of Treasurer of Huron County, from the year 1856, to the year 1860. He was Treasurer of the Fire Lands Historical Society, from the date of its organization to that of his death. He was an earnest patriot, an honest philanthropist, kind and generous in all his domestic and social relations, a man of strict integrity, of active enterprise and of great industry. His funeral was attended by a large concourse of citizens who felt his loss with sincere sorrow. He left a widow and six children.

JOHN SOWERS

Died at his residence in Ridgefield township, Huron county, on the 3d of June, 1868. Mr. Sowers was born in York county, Pennsylvania, in 1778—emigrated to Ohio in 1811, and settled in Fairfield county. He served in the war of 1812, and has been a patriot all his life—during the late rebellion his sympathies being strongly with the government. On the 20th of September, 1815, he moved to Ridgefield, where he continued to reside until removed by death. He was a man of correct habits through life, and gained the esteem of all who knew him. Although he never made a public profession of Religion, yet during his last sickness he said to his family, that he had been giving the subject his attention for several years, and felt prepared and willing to die. He leaves a large circle of friends to mourn their loss.

B.

LIFE IN NEW ENGLAND.

Mr. George G. Channing, brother of the famous William Henry Channing, has had the happy thought of writing down his recollections of Newport (R. I.) men and ways as he knew them between 1793 and 1811. From a review of the book, in the New York Evening Post, we select the following:

The older people amused themselves after their fashions. Mr. Channing candidly confesses, "New-

port life, as I remember it, was dull enough." Wealthy men, indeed, gave whist parties, at which they usually got drunk, and families "in moderate circumstances" had sideboards well stocked with rum, gin, brandy, sherry, port, etc. After shaking hands with a caller, the first question was: "What will you take?" But the formal "entertainments" were very dull. They were never given in summer. No written invitations were sent out; the children of the families giving the entertainment carried verbal messages from door to door. The company assembled before seven o'clock in the evening, the ladies wearing "English cotton fabric having a broad hem, or, a still greater extravagance, a single flounce with short sleeves, long white kid gloves, white cotton stockings, and shoes with sharp pointed toes."

Ear rings were worn, and fashionable ladies and young belles wore strings of gold beads about their necks. High-top combs were used, and the hair was puffed on each side. Gold watches were carried by few. Some ladies had muffs of black silk quilted with cotton wool; fur muffs were rare. The more fashionable gentleman wore small clothes, knee lacings, sharp pointed shoes—more rarely boots—with high heels, ruffled shirt bosoms, collars which nearly reached their ears, and neck cloths. Breastpins were common.

At these parties there was no free conversation. Every one took a seat and stayed in it all the evening. Tea was brought in on one tray, and sugar and cream on another. Then cake, nuts, raisins, etc., were handed around. The entertainment frequently ended with sentimental and patriotic songs, "Adams and Liberty" being the favorite in respectable circles.

Each winter two or three "subscription assemblies" were given. As there were but two carriages on hire in the town, the work of collecting the guests began early. The principal feature of the collations was the huge loaves of frosted plum cake, baked by Duchess Guamino, a negro woman, whose epitath was written by Dr. Channing. The dances were the "minuet, country dance and reel." The partners for the first two dances were invariably drawn by lot, so that the plainest girls in the room had at least a chance of dancing twice during the evening. The children had a dancing school, kept by a Frenchman, Mr. Carpentier.

Now and then the town was visited by "a harlequin company, a juggler, a ventriloquist, an elephant or a learned pig." The great periodical excitements, however, were "election day" and the Fourth of July. Political feelings ran very high during Mr. Channing's boyhood; so high, indeed, that there was little social intercourse between Federalists and Republican families. At town meetings there was almost always fighting, and hanging and burning of effigies were also common practices. The Republicans put up liberty poles; Federalists pulled them down on the first dark night. Collisions on the streets were not unfrequent.

These same streets were not furnished with sidewalks at the time of which Mr. Channing writes. "The custom prevailed of walking in them mid-way." No one thought of carrying parasols or silk umbrellas; and of course India-rubber overshoes were unknown. Oiled linen umbrellas were some times seen. Watchmen walked back and forth, calling out the time and the state of the weather, receiving on stormy nights many mugs of "flip" from kind-hearted householders. Town meeting were called by the town crier and drummer.

The houses were not much more imposing within than without. The drawing-room carpet was sometimes of Kidderminster: but, "as the light was not shut out by window shades or blinds, its colors were usually faded." The best mirrors were round, with side sockets for candles. The best chairs were of mahogany, with straight, varnished backs. The seats were frequently of polished leather, stained black. The bellows and hearth brush hung on opposite sides of the open fireplace. The sideboards were often elaborate. The liquors were exhibited in Dutch liquor cases in an open space below, or in triangular liquor stands above.

The riched carved salver was a prominent feature, and the taper-shaped wine glasses and bumper tumblers, bearing the owner's name richly engraved, always excited a pleasant glance from boon companions. There were punch bowls of every size, shape and finish. The chief article of chamber furniture was a "bureau of dark polished mahogany, frequently ornamented with fanciful carving and swinging brass handles; and in wealthy families, the bedstead in the "best chamber" was "surmounted by a cornice, to which was attached calico or dimity curtains, looped for the display of the fringed counterpanes."

MOTHER GREEN.

A correspondent of the Cincinnati *Gazette* reports a narrative given at a Harrison Log Cabin Raising in Lancaster, Ohio, in 1840, by a venerable lady of that place, Mrs. Ruhama Green, (familiarly known as Mother Green,) of her pioneer history.

Standing upon the wagon load of logs, she said: "My first husband was Charles Builderbaugh. We moved above Wheeling just after we were married. He had many fights with Indians, and always came off best; was considered a brave man and a good rifle shot. Before our marriage he was a Captain, and commanded a company at Crawford's defeat, and was in the bloody massscre of the Moravian Indians. It is said he shot and scalped Shebosh, a Moravian Chief. I do not know this to be true; but I know he was there when that cruel and unjustifiable murder took place, as I often heard him say so, and he frequently said he regretted the thing, as he found out, after, that all the charges against those Christian Indians were false.

The Indians knew this, and knew him well, and often sought his life. In June, 1789, my husband, his brother Jacob and myself, early one morning (when we had no fear of Indians) crossed the Ohio river in a canoe to look after some cattle. We had scarcely landed before more than

twenty Indians fired at us and rushed upon the men. One shot hit Jake in the shoulder, all missed me and my husband. Jake took to the canoe and escaped, my husband fled, but was overtaken, and I hid in the logs while they were after the men. They brought my husband back near the place I was in, and I saw them tie him, and I then saw no hope for his life, as they acted as if they knew him. If I had stuck to my first resolution I could have escaped; but soon I heard him call me by name, and begged me to come to him. Here a struggle took place in my breast which I can not describe. Shall I go to him, and become a prisoner, or shall I remain, return to the cabin, and take care of our two children? He called a second time, and then said, "If I would only come I might save his life,' and I then went out and gave myself up, hoping to save my husband or die with him. This was opposite our cabin, in which I had left the children, one a son three years old, the other a daughter, an infant. The Indians were in a hurry, as they knew Jake would go to Wheeling, and the men from the fort would follow, we traveled together all day and night, and in the morning we separated, I going with one party and my husband with another. I never saw him after that. I was taken to Tuscarawas river, and there we camped, and, soon after, the rest of the Indians came, and showed me the scalp of my husband, which they had on a pole, and to convince me it was his, threw it in my lap. I knew it by the red hair, but I never said a word. This was in the evening, and I was so tired that I laid my head against a tree, and slept soundly—forgetting my sorrow. In the morning the scalp was gone, and I never saw it again. I was told after my release, that men from the fort found our trail, and followed on until they found the dead body of the Captain, tomahawked and scalped, and looked as if he had died a lingering death. They buried him, gave up the chase, and left me with the Indians. After I knew my husband was dead, my whole heart yearned for the children, as they were now without father or mother. I was with the Indians nine months and was adopted into a family. After we came to Miami Town, on the Big Miami river, I was treated just as the rest of the squaws; made to carry wood and water, go to the woods and bring in the game, and all the time was with one family, and had to make moccasins, dry meat—jerk it, we call it—and most I cared for then was their nasty, dirty ways. I could not eat after their cooking, and always slyly cooked for myself. I went often with hunting parties, and was never insulted by the men, but was more abused by the squaws than the men. I was not then a Christian, but somehow I never feared but that in some way I would be restored to the children. I learned to speak their language, and then I heard why they wanted to kill my husband. They said he confessed he was Captain Builderbaugh, and as soon as he admitted it, they said, 'Ha! you kill many Indians—you big Captain—you kill Moravian.'

My greatest longing was for the children, and I would have desired death had it not been for them. I could see them all day just as I left them, and dreamed of them all night, my only hope was in seeing them. About eight months after I was taken some friendly Indians went to Fort Washington (now Cincinnati,) and told the commander there was a white woman with the Indians, and he sent some men and redeemed me, and kept me two weeks in the fort until it was safe for me to go up the river; and, on going up, I found the children well, in the same cabin where I left them, and cared for by Jake, the Captain's brother. I then

took them and returned to my Eastern home. The people wanted me to stay West, but I had enough of Indians; but when I got back I was not satisfied, for I loved the woods and the West; and, would you believe me, *I married John Green two years after, and persuaded him to move West.* We did so, and a second time settled on the outskirts west of Lancaster, where I now reside. Now I tell you, people, none of you love General Harrison as I do. When you do as did—never know when you went to bed that you or your children would awake again in the world, and never dare open your cabin door in the morning unless you looked everywhere from port-holes, to see if Indians were not about ready to shoot you—then you will know why we 'early settlers' loved the old General; and that's why I came with the boys to see you build the cabin and see my old friends in Lancaster."

She died in 1842, surviving this event two years.

In conversation with an "early settler" thirty-two years since, the writer was assured Mrs. Green was the mother of the first-born white child here. The facts were thus detailed to me: "One morning early, I saw a woman in the prairie, wading among the high grass, and wondered who she was and what she was doing. She came to our cabin, and I requested her to sit near the fire, as her feet were wet. She remarked she would dry her feet, and after pulling off her shoes and stocking, said, she would not have done so, only she gave birth to a son last night, and she thought she had better be a little careful on that account. Mrs. Green was the woman, and I know the son very well; I know he was the first born white child in this settlement. She told me she was looking for her cow." Of such women were the "early settlers," and such their exposures. "No storied urn nor animated bust," not even a stone marks the place where she lies buried. Shall such excellence go unmarked, even for a time, or will the women of Ohio honor their sex by placing over the grave of Ruhama Green a suitable monument?

EARLY SETTLERS OF NORWALK.

BY PHILO COMSTOCK.

At the time of the burning of Norwalk, Connecticut, by General Tryon, during the war of our Independence, my grandfather, Thomas Comstock, was living at New Canaan, an adjoining township, and extended such aid to the sufferers as his means permitted. He took some of them into his house, till such time as they could provide houses for their relief. Not having the means of payment, and it being said that Government would at some future time do something for them, they

proposed to my grandfather to release to him any claim they might have against the Government, on account of their loss. The result was that he afterward came into possession of a little more than 2000 acres of land, which he located in Norwalk, Ohio. About the year 1806, my father, Nathan S. Comstock, in company with several others, started on an exploring tour to see the new country. They spent some time in looking over the country, but not being provided with suitable maps or guides, they were not certain at the time that they found the precise land they were searching for. Early in the spring of 1809, my father engaged the services of two men, Darius Feris, and Elijah Hoyt, and started for Norwalk, Ohio, with the intention of making settlement there. They started with a span of horses and wagon, and such tools as would be necessary in building a log house and clearing the lumber off the land They came as far as Buffalo with their wagon, and there finding it impracticable to proceed further in that way, purchased a small boat, packed their goods in it, adding to them a barrel of whisky, and started following the shore as near as practicable, two managing the boat, the others proceeding with the horses on the shore. In this way they managed to reach the mouth of the Huron River. At this time there were a number of Indian settlements along the river. The Indians being attracted there by the great fertility of the river flats, upon which they raised quantities of corn. The largest of these settlements was where Milan now stands, containing about one thousand inhabitants, called at that time Pequatting. Some years before, a Moravian missionary had settled amongst them by the name of Frederick Drake. A small mission house had been built there. The Indians being very friendly, offered the use of the mission house to my father till he could erect one of his own, which offer he accepted. He then selected a spot for putting up a house near the bank of a spring in the direction of Norwalk, near my present residence. After cutting the logs, the few white men then in the country were invited to assist in putting it up, of which at least one is now living, F. W. Fowler of Milan. This I suppose to be the first house ever erected in Norwalk township.

They now proceeded to carry out their original intention of clearing off about ten acres of ground and sowing it to wheat. The Indians visited them daily, and were anxions to purchase whisky. My father having some of the Yankee spirit of trade, added three gallons of water to one of whisky, some burnt maple sugar, some sort of berries to give it color, making it a very pleasant cordial, which he sold to the Indians for one dollar a quart, calling it French brandy.

One incident which took place during the summer, I will relate. Their house had neither door, window, floor nor chimney. As they had no housekeeper, it was common for them to set their dinner cooking before leaving for their work. A very common dinner with them was the old-fashioned dish of pork and beans. One morning having prepared it over the fire to their satisfaction, they proceeded to their work. After working till their appetites reminded them of the savory dish that awaited them at the house, they started to enjoy it. On coming near the house they saw two or three sneaking wolves disappear down a ravine near by. The next sight was a small copper or brass kettle in which they had left their dinner cooking, lying near by on the ground, in a battered condition, marked all over with

their teeth. It is very likely under the peculiar circumstances, as a man with an empty stomach is not apt to be very patient, that the wolves came in for some pretty severe denunciations. In the fall after sowing their wheat, and while making preparations to start for home, my father was seized with that scourge of all new countries the ague and fever. One of the horses had as they supposed become disabled with the bite of a rattle snake. The flies had been so thick and not being used to the wild feed of the woods, both were so reduced in flesh, it was not thought advisable to take them along.

Leaving the horses, they started on foot, when they reached Judge Doan's, who lived somewhere in the vicinity of where Cleveland now stands, my father was so utterly exhausted as to be unable to proceed farther. Here the two men left him and proceeded home.

After staying here a few weeks he was told that he could get passage on a boat, if he would take the risk. It was loaded for Buffalo. Being very anxious to get home he went aboard, and after a very disagreeable passage arrived at Buffalo. Here he laid by a few weeks again, the ague shaking him alternately, every other day. He then purchased a horse and started for home, arriving there about the opening of spring.

One incident during his journey I will relate. Staying one night at a settlement which was divided from the next by some twenty miles or more of forest, he started early next morning, hoping to get through before night. After traveling awhile there commenced one of those cold rains which in winter are so disagreeable. He rode till he was nearly chilled through, and was then seized with a violent fit of the ague. Being unable to sit on his horse longer, he dismounted and stretched himself on a log, the ground being thoroughly saturated with water. He was detained here about ten hours, with such a skaking as is easier imagined than felt.

It was my father's original intention to return in the spring of 1810, with his family and become a permanent settler, but his health was such, (and indeed it was two years before he fully recovered,) and my mother being unwilling to expose herself to the hardships of a new country, he resigned his interest in the West to his brother Abijah, who left with two pair of oxen and a wagon, taking with him a lad named Alfred Arnold, and arrived at Norwalk in the summer of 1810. Mr. Arnold is still living and resides in Townsend.

My uncle Abijah was the first Justice of the Peace of the township of Norwalk, also the first county treasurer there. He bore the character of an upright, honest man. Perhaps his greatest fault consisted in placing almost unlimited confidence in the promises of men who sought to make him their dupe.

My uncle's log house of one room, at this time afforded ample space for kitchen, bedroom, dining room, sitting room, parlor and office. His safe was a wooden chest sitting in one corner. During his term of office he had numerous applications for money by men promising to return it punctually when wanted. Being naturally disposed to oblige, he was easily persuaded to accommodate them. The result was when he got through collecting, the treasury was nearly as empty as when he began, and many of his pretended friends failing to redeem their promises, he was unable to meet his liabilities. In this dilemma he went to Connecticut and solicited aid of my father, who raised the necessary amount, returned to Ohio with him and took security by mortgage on his real estate. The money was

never paid and the land subsequently passed into my father's possession. In the autumn of 1628 my father sent me to Ohio to look after his property. I was then 19 years of age, and I have remained here to the present time having been a citizen of Norwalk Township forty years.

A REMARKABLE DISCOVERY.

The Old World, with its historic associations, has claimed the attention of the learned to the exclusion of much that is interesting in the early settlement of this country. The antiquarians of Europe have been diligently at work unraveling the historic significance of the lacustrine houses in the lakes of Switzerland and other places on the Continent. Their investigations have been carried to such an extent that the discovery of a single utensil or article of domestic use has been sufficient to fix the precise age in which the persons lived who made use of it.

Thus the remains of a race living beyond the pale of history have enabled men of science to determine their manner of living, what they used for food, their daily habits, etc. These revelations have enabled them to group these pre-historic races into various ages, such as the stone, bronze, and iron. The boundaries of these periods are as clearly defined as the paleozoic or other ages of the geologist, and man is made to figure in these early times with as true a story of his life and history as the animals of Cuvier from the discovery of a tooth or a bone of the foot.

These early races, about which there is so much mystery, have, until very recently, been confounded with the savages who inhabited the country at the time of its discovery. There are doubtless very few who really understand that the "mound builders"—that strange race, whose colossal fortifications and burial places line the banks of the Ohio—were as distinct from the red men as the red men from the whites. The traces of these mound builders are to be seen everywhere throughout the West, from the Alleghanies to the Rocky Mountains. Sometimes they are mere hillocks, marking the spot where they were buried, but sometimes they are redoubts and breastworks, ramparts and circumvallations, so well preserved that we are able to make out pretty clearly their means of attack and defense.

In the early settlement of the country, it was stated that a large burial place of these mound builders was to be found just below Clarksville, on the Indiana side of the river. All traces of it were supposed to have been lost, but during the freshets of last spring and summer the banks below Clarksville caved in to a remarkable extent. The result was that the bones of the buried mound builders became exposed, and the visitor could see, sticking in the bank, entire skeletons in various states of preservation. Here were skulls as solid as the day they were buried,

with even the jagged sutures intact, and all their teeth grinning in ghastly solemnity at the passers-by. Long bones protruded from the yielding sand, while the smaller ones lay scattered around beneath the feet. Not only were we in the presence of their works but of the very men who were the builders. Among these bones were battle axes, hatchets and arrow-heads, utensils of pottery, pestles, mortars, and articles used as ornaments, Dr. Neat, of this city, has in his possession a vessel of pottery, holding seven gallons, which is marked over with ornamental work, and certainly shows considerable skill in the maker. A large mortar with several holes, such as the medicine men of the mound builders used, is in the possession of Dr. Reid. Battle-axes and ordinary hatchets were found in large numbers. Unlike the mounds at Marietta and other places in Ohio, no metals or metalic substances have yet been found. A few years ago the corpse of a warrior was discovered in one of the sepulchral mounds in the streets of Marietta, with the remains of a buckler "composed of copper overlaid with a thick plate of silver." The most ancient of the mounds have yielded bracelets of brass, smooth and polished, rings and tubes of the same material, various ornaments for the person in silver, pipes of terra cotta and slate, rude sculptures in wood, and finer ones in more durable material.

The people in the neighborhood have gathered up the relics found at the mound, and almost every fisherman possesses some trinket or utensil of pottery, axes or pestles. The pottery is much finer and harder than that in use with us, unglazed, with many strange devices figured on the sides, while the edges are frequently scalloped.

If this mound was properly investigated we doubt not it would yield a great deal of information which would be of value to the archæologist, and add something more to the history of a forgotten race.[—New Albany (Ind.) Commercial.

MISCELLANEOUS ARTICLES.

OHIO VALLEY HISTORICAL SERIES.

Under this title, the enterprising publishers, Robert Clarke & Co., of Cincinnati, propose to publish a series of works relating to the early history of the Ohio Valley and they invite all interested in the object to communicate with them. In their prospectus they say:

"Nor can we appreciate too highly the service already performed by such publications as the "*American Pioneer*," edited and published by John S. Williams, in 1842 and 1843, in connection with the Logan Historical Society; the "*Olden Time*," published by Neville B. Craig, in Pittsburg, in 1846; the "*Fire Lands Pioneer*," commenced 1858 and still continued; as well as the various

state, county, and other local histories, and the now rare works of Hall, Hildreth, Doddridge, Burnet, Cutler, McAfee, Metcalf, Flint, Drake, and others. Much, however, remains to be done. With exception of the "*Fire Lands Historical Society*," there is not, we believe, a single active historical society in the whole region; and yet there is a vast amount of materials accessible for use, in the form of letters to friends giving the incidents of the day, memoirs, autobigraphies, diaries, essays, sketches, reports of officers and commissioners, etc., all bearing more or less on matters of great historical or personal interest.

It was not till we instituted inquiries on the subject, with reference to publication, that we had any idea ot the large collections of valuable papers in existence in various parts of the country, which the owners have expressed themselves not only willing but anxious to place at our disposal for the purpose of having them preserved by publication.

We have already secured several valuable collections for this series, embracing many important unpublished papers. These we propose to issue separtely as "Collections," each prefixed by a biographical sketch, and rendered easy of reference by a copious index."

THE FIRST PRAYER IN CONGRESS.

At the Fitchville meeting of the Firelands Historical Society, the following was presented by Mrs. King, and read.

In Thatcher's Military journal under date of December, 1777, is found a note containing the identical "first prayer in Congress," made by the Rev. Jacob Duche, a gentleman of great eloquence. Here it is, a historical curiousity:

"O, Lord our Heavenly Father, high and mighty King of kings, and Lord of lords, who dost from thy throne behold all the dwellers on earth, reignest with power supreme over all the kingdoms, empires and governments; look down in mercy, we beseech Thee, on these American States, who have fled to Thee from the rod of the oppressor, and thrown themselves on thy gracious protection, desiring to be henceforth dependent only on thee, to thee they have appealed for the righteousness of their cause; do they now look up for that countenance and support which thou alone canst give; take them, therefore heavenly father, under thy nurturing care; give them wisdom in council and valor in the field; defeat the malicious designs of our adversaries; convince them of the unrighteousness of their cause; and if they still persist in their sanguinary purpose, O let the voice of thine own unerring justice sounding in their hearts, constrain them to drop the weapon of war from their unnerved hands in the day of battle! Be thou present, O God of wisdom! and direct the councils of this honorable assembly; enable them to settle things on the best and surest foundations, that the scene of blood may be speedily closed, that order, harmony, and peace may be effectually restored; and truth and justice, and religion, and piety prevail and flourish among the people. Preserve the health of their bodies and the vigor of their minds; shower down on them, and the millions they represent, such temporal blessings as thou seest expedient for them in this world, and crown them with everlasting glory in the world to come. All this we ask in the name and through the merits of Jesus Christ, thy Son, our Savior. Amen."

THE FIRST PIONEER OF FITCHVILLE.

BY JOEL E. MEAD.

My father, Abraham Mead, was born in South Salem, Westchester County, New York, April 16th, 1774.

My mother, whose name was Deborah Barker, and wife of Abraham Mead, was born in Carmel, Putnam County, New York, November 5th, 1779.

They together with their family of nine children started on the 16th day of April, 1817, from Carmel, Putnam County, New York, with a span of horses and wagon to come to Huron County, Ohio. After a journey of some twenty-one days on the road, they arrived in Fitchville on the 7th day of May, being under the necessity of cutting a road 5 miles to get into the township. He immediately began clearing the land in order to get in some corn before it should be too late, not even waiting to build a house, but they lived over thirty days without a house, sleeping in the covered wagon and on the ground under a rude shelter of elm bark. After clearing several acres of land and building a house, not being satisfied with the location, and wishing to get as near the center of the town as possible, he measured the township each way by means of a rope and pocket compass, and again after two years located himself on Vermillion river, where the little village of Clinton now is, and where he resided some twelve years. There my mother, Deborah Mead, died, July 23d, 1823. This was the first death in Fitchville township. My sister, Mary Mead was the next, who died, November 22d, of the same year, aged 17 years.

In 1832 my father sold out in Fitchville, and moved to Norwalk township about one and a half miles southeast of the village upon the farm where I now reside, and upon which he lived until God in his providence saw fit to call him away, which was January 15th, 1851, aged seventy-six years and nine months.

OHIO CAPITOL IN 1817.

In the Dayton Library is a file of the Ohio Sentinel, published by Isaac C. Burnet, at Dayton, Ohio. The paper has four columns to a page. The Sentinel of Feb. 27, 1812, contains the following paragraph, which is not without interest at the present time:

"THE SEAT OF GOVERNMENT.—The Legislature have at length settled the question respecting the seat of Government, at least for a season. It is to be removed to Chillicothe for the present. The high bank opposite Franklington has been fixed upon as the permanent seat for 23 years, to commence in the year 1817."

At the time the above appeared, Marietta was the seat of Government. The "high bank opposite Franklington" is the ground upon which the city of Columbus, the present State Capital, now stands.

ONE MORE REVOLUTIONARY SOLDIER.

A correspondent of the Cincinnati *Gazette* writes:

In your paper I notice an account of the only remaining soldier of the Revolution, John Gray, of Hiramsburg, Ohio. I beg leave to correct the statement by furnishing you a short history of another. There is now living near Spencerville, Allen county, Ohio, William Taylor, who was born in the year 1757—the exact date of his age is not known, the family record having been lost forty years ago—and is consequently 110 years of age. I called upon the venerable soldier and learned the following facts from his own lips. He was quite feeble at the time, and gave but a brief account of his life: He was born, as

is above stated, in 1757, in Somerset county, Md., two miles from the city of Salsbury. His father died when he was five years old, at which age he was bound to Capt. Wm. Traverse, of the tradeship Eugene, with whom he sailed until the breaking out of the Revolution. He then entered the navy and served during the war. At the close of the war he continued to follow the sea until 1797, making in all 35 years at sea. Immediately on leaving the sea he married Miss Ellen Martin, and settled on a plantation in his native State, where he was engaged in the occupation of farming, until the year 1810, at which time he emigrated to the State of Kentucky, and settled upon Cabin Creek, where he lived until 1812. In that year he emigrated to the State of Ohio, where he joined the 26th Regiment of Ohio Light Infantry, in which regiment he served eighteen months; was at Fort Malden, and afterward at Niagara garrison, where he was captured. On being exchanged he returned to his farm in Adams county, Ohio, where he lived until the year 1844. He then moved to Auglaize county, where he lived until 1865. Since that time he has lived with his daughter in Allen county. He has buried three wives, having been married twice after he was seventy-five. Age has dealt lightly with him, and he enjoys very good health, and thinks he may yet need a fourth. His voice is as strong as when in early manhood he sang to his love by the ocean shore. He converses very well, and loves to relate the incidents of his early life, which he remembers distinctly.

G. W. HAMMOND.

A PIONEER'S GOLDEN WEDDING.

A correspondent of the Cleveland *Herald* gives the following account of a golden wedding held at the residence of one of the Pioneers of Cayuga county, February 16, 1867.

Mr. and Mrs. B. B. Burk, celebrated the fiftieth anniversary of their wedding day, at their old homestead in Newburg, which was built in 1810, where were assembled the most of their offspring now living, of seven children, seventeen grandchildren, and one great-grand-child, together with brothers, nephews, nieces, and many of their old friends and neighbors.

Mr. Burk came to this county in 1801, from Massachusetts, and settled in Newburg, at which time there were but five or six families in the township. But few men can give a more thrilling account of the hardships and privations of pioneer life than he. At the first breaking out of the war of 1812, with England, he volunteered, and served as drum-major during the war, and was in all the hard-fought battles on the Niagara frontier.

Mrs. Burk is the daughter of Philo Taylor, now deceased, who settled in Cleveland in 1806, when "Cleveland was six miles from Newburg." A model wife, a model mother, and a model neighbor. But few woman in Northern Ohio took a deeper interest in the cause of the Union during the late rebellion than she. Contributing liberally of her sustenance to the comfort of the outer and inner man of the boys in blue, some five or six of which volunteered from under her own roof, and as a box of good things arrived in camp from Newburg, three as hearty cheers were given for "Aunt Diney," as were ever given for the starry banner.

It was a time long to be remembered, when brothers and sisters long separated met to greet each other and embrace a father and mother in "the old house at home."

A RELIC.

L. A. Lammot, Esq., of Marietta, intended to have on exhibition at the Pioneer celebration, an interesting relic in the shape of an old wooden money safe; but unfortunately it did not arrive here, until it was too late. It has since reached here, and we were so fortunate as to see it on Saturday.

It was owned by the Bank of Marietta, the first bank in Ohio. It is 4 feet high and 18¾ inches wide, by 17⅞ inches deep. Unlike safes of modern times, it is constructed of wood, with sides two inches in thickness, and strapped with hammered iron bands three inches in width, into which nails are driven every three-quarters of an inch. The bands pass round the safe in both directions, and at the points of intersection are secured by nails that pass through into the wood.

It was built in New York in 1807, brought to Marietta soon thereafter, and used until about 1832. Then, like the usage received by many other things after they have served their generation, it was kicked out of doors, and found a watery grave in the Muskingum canal.

Twenty years afterward, when it had almost passed out of mind, Mr. Lammot discovered the old veteran, and at once took measures to recover it. It presents a sorry appearance, for one end is out, part of the door gone, and the old English lock, that once defied the early thieves of Ohio, removed. It is a fit subject for the retired list, and an interesting commercial relic of our State.
—[Cin. Gaz. April 14,

FAMILY STATISTICS.

A resident of Liberty Center, furnishes the Henry County Signal with the following remarkable family statistics: "The father was born in 1759 and died in 1835, aged 76 years. The mother was born in 1765 and died in 1837, aged 72. They had twelve children, the twelfth of whom died in infancy, while all the others lived to advanced ages, viz: 81, 81, 79, 77 75, 75, 71, 71, 71, 60, besides one still living at the age of 65."

A correspondent writes from Guernsey county that a family named Millhorn settled in that county in 1815. John and Elizabeth Millhorn, the father and mother, were the parents of five boys and two girls. The father died at the age of 85, while the mother reached 95. The children are all living—the oldest being 70, and the youngest 52 years of age. They are all church members. On the 12th of November last, the writer dined with them at the house of the youngest sister. The oldest of the family sat at the head of the table, and the others were ranged according to the gradations of age. Among the guests was a lady by the name of Reeves, who is still healthy and active, though 98 years old.

A GOOD SUGGESTION.

The Religious Herald, of Hartford, presents an idea than deserves consideration: "There is an old church in Connecticut, a glorious old church two hundred and thirty years old, of which no document can be found previous to the present century. The list of pastors would have been lost, only they never had but ten, up to 1860, and their tomb stones behind the old church tell the story, preserve the history. Every year in the life of every church ought to have its bound MSS. volume. Every life closed in its communion, however brief, ought to have its story written out tenderly and with rigid accuracy. These volumes will be worth their weight in gold some day. Every church should be an historical society."

A TRULY GOLDEN WEDDING.

Mr. and Mrs. Dittoe, of Mount Harrison, Perry county, Ohio, celebrated their golden wedding on the 4th. The venerable bride wore the same dress in which she was originally married. Among the fifty-five guests present were the parents of General Phil. Sheridan. A correspondent who was there writes: "A description, though brief and imperfect it may be, of this wedding dress, may prove interesting to many—the material is an excellent article of white silk, the skirt made with two gores, the front entirely plain, very low in the neck, the skirt reaches just to the floor, the waist very high and made with a draw-string, and that just the width of a hand below the top of the dress. To complete the attire of the bride, a white silk handkerchief covered the neck and shoulders to where it met the top of the dress. This was the bridal dress, and thus attired she entered the room in which her husband was seated surrounded by friends and relatives, carrying in her hand a magnificent boquet, briskly stepping up to him, turning to the company said, 'This is the dress I was married in, married to this good husband,' then stooping gave him an affectionate kiss."

ORIGIN OF THE METHODIST MISSION

It appears from the forthcoming volume of Dr. Stevens' History of the Methodist Episcopal Church, that the Missionary Society of that Church originated in the reformation of a drunken Ohio negro. Dr. Stevens says: "While Marcus Lindsley was preaching on a Sabbath in 1815, in Marietta, Ohio, a negro addicted to drunkenness, and on his way to the river at the time to drown himself, heard the voice of the itinerant, went to the door of the church, and after listening to the sermon, returned home with an awakened conscience. On the next Sunday he joined the society, and his neighbors soon saw that he was indeed a regenerated man. He endeavored, in an humble way, to do good, and resolved at last to go among the Indian tribes, a witness for the Gospel. He could read and was a superior singer. He went first among the Delawares on the Muskingum, and then among the Wyandottes on the Upper Sandusky. He was well received in some localities, while in others his life was in danger. It was not long before five leading chiefs, Big Tree, Between-the-Logs, Mononcue, Hicks and Peacock, joined the Church. In about three years after Stewart went, solitary and unsupported, on his mission, the "Missionary Society of the Methodist Episcopal Church arose. Its necessity had become obvious."

JOHN SEYMOUR Esq.

THE OLDEST TOWNSHIP CLERK ON THE FIRE LANDS.

At the recent township election, in Lyme, Mr. Seymour declined a re-election to the office of Clerk. He was first elected in 1838, and has held it 30 years. He was always accurate, prompt and intelligent.

For several years he sought to retire from office, but the people *would* re-elect him. Age and infirmities now compel him to retire from public service.

PLYMOUTH ROCK MONUMENT.

The last stone was placed upon this structure December 1, 1867. The completed structure is fifteen feet square and thirty-eight feet high. The corner-stone was laid on the 1st of August, 1859, with appropriate ceremonies, and it is expected the coming summer will witness its dedication.

In connection with the deposit of the cap-stone on Saturday last, an interesting event occurred. The

pilgrim bones, which were exhumed on Cole's Hill, in 1855, during the construction of the water works, and afterward deposited in a brick vault on the Burying Hill, were again removed from their resting place, and carefully inclosed in a box lined with lead, were placed in the open chamber in the attic, between the capstone and the dome. The following inscription on the outside of the box containing the remains is an authenic record of their discovery:

"About fifty of the pilgrims died during the winter of 1620 and 1621, and were buried on Cole's Hill. This number included Governor John Carver, William White, Elizabeth Winslow, wife of Governor Edward Winslow, Rose Standish, wife of Captain Miles Standish, and Mary Allerton, wife of Isaac Allerton. On the 23d of May, 1855, workmen while excavating a trench for the pipes of the Plymouth Water Works, built during that year, found on the hill, a little south of Middle street, nearly all the bones belonging to three skeltons. The skulls were submitted to Dr. John C. Warren and Dr. Oliver Wendell Holmes, of Boston for the purpose of ascertaining whether they were the skulls of white persons or Indians. Their decision, that the skulls were those of white persons, made it certain that they were those of some of the pilgrims who died in 1620 and 1621. The bones were soon after placed carefully in a vault on the Burying Hill, prepared for the purpose, and were exhumed and placed in the Canopy over the rock where the pilgrims landed, on the 30th day of November, 1867, the day of the completion of the Canopy."

THE FIRST WEDDING ON THE RESERVE.

The first wedding on the Western Reserve was in what was afterwards called Mentor, in Geauga county. Having no townships or counties, they designated localities by the name of "settlements." This wedding was in what was called Marsh Settlement, in 1799. It was west of Black Brook near the lake shore.

In 1798, Col. Alexander Harper, Major Wm. McFarland and Ezra Gregory, with their families, arrived at what is since known as Harpersfield, Ashtabula county, from Delaware county, New York. In Major McFarland's family was a fine young widow by the name of Parthena Mingus, whom Major McFarland having no children of his own, had adopted when a child. She had been married to a man by the name of Mingus, and had one child; but Mingus died soon after the marriage. The widow then returned to the family of her adopted father, and came on to Harpersfield with them in 1798.

There lived in Newburg, six miles from Cleveland, a comely bachelor by the name of James Hamilton,

who had purchased land, put up a cabin, but had no helpmeet. The arrival of the new settlers at Harpersfield, though fifty miles distant, was a remarkable event, and soon became known through the whole region; and the young widow stirred up the thoughts and heart of Hamilton. He abjured bachelordom, and resolved to be a man. He procured two horses, on one of which he rode, and, leading the other, he started through the trackless forest, fifty miles, in search of a housekeeper. With nothing but the instinct of love and marked trees to guide him, he at last reached the Harper settlement, and in the young widow found the object of his search.

In answer to the unspoken language of his heart, her heart responded, in the language of Ruth, "Where thou goest I will go; where thou stayest I will stay; thy God shall be my God, and thy people my people."

Both parties willing, nothing was wanting to crown their hopes and happiness but the solemnities of the marriage ceremony. But here was the difficulty. The Western Reserve was not organized into a county until the summer of 1800, when the county of Trumbull, embracing the whole Reserve, was organized by the Legislature. No justices or other persons had been appointed or authorized to solemnize marriages, and the young widow and her gay lover were "in a fix." But "where there is a will there is always a way." In the Marsh settlement there was a man by the name of Moses Park, who had once been a Baptist preacher, and, though he had abandoned his calling, and, in fact, abjured his Christian character, it was concluded he would answer. It was accordingly agreed that, on their way to Newburgh, they would call on him, and legalize, as far as circumstances would permit, their marriage contract.

Accordingly, at early dawn on the following day, they mounted their horses, Hamilton taking the widow's child in his lap, and the widow, for want of a side-saddle, riding on her feather bed, and set out in search of the quandam preacher. On arriving at his cabin, and making their business known, he at first declined again putting on the sacerdotal robes, as he had not preached for several years, and had totally abjured his former creed. On reflection and urgent solicitation, he finally consented to act the priest, and with the usual ceremonies he pronounced them husband and wife. Money was out of the question, they paid the priest in heartfelt thanks for his services, and went on their way rejoicing.

The descendants of that marriage are living in Newburgh, and by their respectability prove their marriage legitimate.—[Chardon Democrat.

CALEB ATWATER—WESTERN ANTIQUITIES.

At the last semi-annual meeting of the American Antiquarian Society, the report of the Council was read by Samuel F. Haven, Esq., the Librarian of the Society, and embraced a view of the present condition of the Society, its immediate and prospective needs, obituary notices of deceased members, and a view of the progress in antiquarian research in this country and in Europe, especially in regard to discoveries and investigations relating to the history and antiquity of the human race.

Among the biographical sketches of deceased members given in the report, was one of Caleb Atwater, of Circleville, Ohio. In connection with the sketch, the following remarks were made with respect to the subject of inquiry, in which he had distinguished himself:

The late Mr. Atwater, author of the "Memoir of the Antiquities found in Ohio, and the Western Country," published by the Society in 1820, was a pioneer in his branch of investigation, and more recent students, with much greater facilities and opportunities, have established his reputation for intelligent observation and just conclusions. From a review of his labors the report proceeds to a general view of this interesting subject. Since 1820 all the increase of information respecting the origin of the western "mounds," "earthworks," &c., is negative rather than positive in its nature, tending to diminish the probability that they are the production of a foreign people, or of the descendants of a foreign people, within any historic period, or were the results of ideas derived from a foreign source. It may be presumed that the sepulchral monuments are the tombs of men holding the highest rank, and, therefore, likely to possess the most perfect specimens of the arts of the people; that their implements, found with their remains, would be the best, and the ornaments the richest, of their kind; sometimes, even of distant origin, and of workmanship superior to those of native manufacture. It is not strange that some of the sculptured pipes from the borders of the Gulf of Mexico, and some of the crude copper fabrics from Lake Superior, should be taken from the graves of chieftains in Central Ohio. Their presence in these places of deposit shows that they were the rarest and choicest possessions belonging to a people whose customs and superstitions relating to burial were the same with those of existing tribes. The regularly formed mounds and earthworks are unaccompanied by any other evidences of scientific skill, or advancement in the arts of civilization. Masonry, carpentry, metallurgy, seem to have been equally unknown. Weapons and tools were of the most primitive character, and the diversities observed in different regions, or be-

longing to different periods, appear to be occasioned by different or greater developements, according to circumstances of a similar people, from similar starting points, with capabilities and mental and moral tendencies not unlike.

The long continued residence of a tribe in a particular locality accounts for the presence of striking memorials of such occupation, and may also explain their size and artistic execution, both possibly being due to the gradual labor of generations in accumulating the materials and imparting to them their shape and finish. It is found to be the fact that while the forms of earthwork vary in different localities, implements, &c., from all localities in the United States, have a striking resemblance, and the aborigines of the country, as seen and described by the first visitors, were hardly more unlike in modes of life and physical attributes than are the descendants of Europeans occupying the same localities at the present time.

The report, after the review of the results of investigation of ancient remains on this continent, of which the above is but a meager sketch, discusses at considerable length the archæological discoveries in Europe and the rapid growth of interest developed among scientific men there in regard to the subject. The wo hemispheres are brought together at the present stage of investigations, not by common features in architecture, of astronomical science, in customs, symbols or traditions, but by the rude implements of stone which are turned up in our fields by the plow, and are gathered from the ancient caves of France and Belgium, or the deep post-pliocene drift of the valley of the Somme, or the shell mounds and peat mosses of Denmark, the bogs and barrows of Great Britain, and the lakes of Switzerland and Italy. The primitive man of Europe, as developed by late discoveries in the above named localities, his place in the order of creation and in the progress of time are there at the present time an engrossing object of interest and investigation; and the primitive man of America, in his rudest condition as seen at the arrival of the whites, is expected to serve as a type and illustration of the primeval inhabitants of the most civilized countries of the world.

CONTENTS OF VOLUME IX.

	Page.
Address of Rev. Zenophon Betts	27
A Relic	113
A Good Suggestion	113
A Truly Golden Wedding	114
Atwater, Caleb— Western Antiquities	116
A Pioneer's Golden Wedding	112
A Remarkable Discovery	108
A Female Centenarian, Reminiscences of,	57
Cahoon Pioneer Celebration	55
Early Lake History	45
Fitchville Township, Notes on,	73
Fitchville, The First Pioneer of,	111
Fitchville, Pioneers, Obituary Record	82
Family Statistics	113
Hours with the Pioneers	14
Interesting Pioneer History	57
Life in New England	101
Life Among the Early Settlers	90
Meetings of the F. L. H. Society:	
Annual at Norwalk	1
Quarterly at Fitchville	4
" " Wakeman.	6
" " Clyde	10
Merry, Charlotte, Biographical Sketch.	59
Members of F. L. H. Society	85
Mother Green	103
Norwalk, Early Settlers of	105
Origin of the Methodist Missions	114
Ohio Capitol in 1817	111
Ohio Valley, Historical Series	109
OBITUARY NOTICES—	
William Kelley	93
Mrs. Julia Taylor	93
Mrs. Jane Buchanan	93
Mrs. Elizabeth Delamater	93
Mrs. Grace Prentiss	94
Ammi Palmer	94
Charles Hubbell	95
Ebenezer M. Barnum	96
Samuel Bristol	97
Union White	98
Aaron Rowland	99
John H. Rule	100
William Gibbs	100
Mrs. Susannah Austin	100
Charles A. Preston	101
John Sowers	101
Plymouth Rock Monument	114
Pioneer Celebration	22
Perkins Township, Notes on the Organization of	43
Revolutionary Soldier, The Last	46
" " One more	111
Stiles David, A Centenarian	62
Semi-Centenial Anniversary, church in Milan	69
Sandusky and Cleveland, A Commercial Retrospect	76
Seymour John, The Oldest Township Clerk	114
The Old Fashioned Choir	47
The days when you and I were young, Maggie	56
The First Wedding on the Reserve.	115
The First Prayer in Congress	110
Ten Minutes with the Pioneers	79
The Last Wolf of Huron County	87
Wakeman, Early Settlement of	27
Wakeman, Inhabitants of prior to 1827	58
Wheeler Johnson, Autobiography of	48

Engraved by J. C. Buttre from a Daguerreotype

Very Respectfully
Daniel Tilden

THE FIRE LANDS PIONEER.

VOLUME X.—JUNE, 1870.

FIRE LANDS HISTORICAL SOCIETY.

ANNUAL MEETING, 1868.

MORNING SESSION.

The annual meeting of the Fireland's Historical Society, for the year 1868, was held at Whittlesey Hall, Norwalk, Ohio, on Wednesday, June 24th, commencing at 10 o'clock, A. M., President Z. Philips in the Chair.

The meeting was opened by prayer, by the Rev. A. Newton, of Norwalk.

The Secretary read the minutes of the last quarterly meeting, which were approved, after which the roll of Township Historical Committees was called. Secretary then read a report of the state of the Treasury, as taken from the books and papers of the late Treasurer, C. A. Preston, Esq., as follows, which on motion was approved:

1867, June 21, To balance on hand,	$45 57
1867, June 21, To am't from mem. ann. meeting,	3 75
1867, To am't from mem. Sept. meeting,	6 25
1867, To am't from mem. Dec. meeting,	6 75
1868, To am't from mem. March meeting,	12 25
	$74 57

PER CONTRA.

1868, By paid C. P. Wickham, Sec'y, for services,	$20 00
Balance on hand	54 57
	$74 57

The Constitution was then read and the names of nineteen new members were added.

On motion of Rev. J. H. Walter, of Milan, the 5th Article of the Constitution was amended by substituting the word March for June.

The Secretary read the report of the Biographer, by which it appeared that the following named Pioneers have died since the last quarterly meeting:

Erastus Smith, Greenfield; Phebe Standish, Fulton County; John Sowers, Ridgefield; Hiram McMillen, Milan; Charles Jackson, Norwalk; Rebecca Keeler, Norwalk; Charles A. Preston, Norwalk.

AFTERNOON SESSION.

The afternoon meeting was opened by the singing of "Coronation" by the Choir.

The election of officers for the ensuing year, was then held, with the following result:

Z. Philips, President.

E. Bemiss, J. H. Niles, F. D. Par-

ish, Benjamin Summers, M. Kellogg, Vice Presidents.

W. C. Allen, Secretary.

D. H. Pease, P. N. Schuyler, Corresponding Secretaries.

C. P. Wickham, Treasurer.

G. T. Stewart, F. D. Parish, Z. Philips, P. N. Schuyler, D. H. Pease, Directors.

S. C. Parker, Biographer.

F. A. Wildman, Keeper of Cabinet.

On motion of P. N. Schuyler, Esq., the vote taken during the morning session to amend the 5th Article of the Constitution, was reconsidered, and, on motion of D. H. Pease, the further consideration of the subject was laid upon the table.

The Choir sang "Exhortation," after which the Society was addressed by Rev. A. R. Palmer, of Norwalk, O. Merry, Esq., of Bellevue, and Rodney Bemiss, of Milan.

Ebenezer Osborn, of Fitchville, then read a paper prepared by himself, entiled "A Pious Pioneer Mother."

A sketch, the scene of which was laid in New England, in olden time, prepared by Vice President J. H. Niles, of Norwich, and entitled, "Deacon McClure's Story," was then read by D. H. Pease, Esq.

"Concord" was then sung by the Choir.

Vice President Bemiss then addressed the meeting.

Upon call of the President for those present who had been upon the Firelands fifty years or more, to rise, forty-five persons responded.

The meeting then listened to interesting remarks by W. E. Smith, of Sandusky, who came upon the Firelands in 1810, Rev. T. F. Hildreth, of Norwalk, and Thos. Stratton, of Hartland.

A letter written by the father of Rev. A. R. Palmer, at the age of 103 years, together with a short account of his death at the remarkable age of 104 years, was then read by W. C. Allen, of Norwalk.

P. N. Schuyler, Esq., then presented to the Society, on behalf of Mrs. M. Yale, of Norwalk, two ancient books entitled, respectively, "Meditations," and "Geography made easy," from the latter of which he read extracts, indicating that if that was Geography rendered easy, its study must have been extremely difficult and abstruse one before.

Mr. W. C. Allen exhibited, on behalf of Vice President M. Kellogg, of Bronson, an old knife, age unknown, with metal handle, that had been plowed up from a foot beneath the surface, by J. Engles, upon the lot south of the "Old Country Seat."

On motion, the Sand Hill Church in Groton Township, Erie County, was selected as the place of holding the next quarterly meeting of the Society, on the second Wednesday in September next, and the following Committee of Arrangements were appointed: Isaac McKesson, H. A. Lyman, A. D. Prout, Joshua Lyle, W. D. Hastings, E. Bemiss, Wm. Parish and Newell Wolcott.

All present then joined with the Choir in singing "Old Hundred," after which the meeting adjourned.

CHAS. P. WICKHAM, Sec'y.

QUARTERLY MEETING, 1868.

MORNING SESSION.

The first quarterly meeting of the Firelands Historical Society, for the current year, was held in a grove near Sand Hill Church, Groton, Erie County, on Wednesday, September 9, 1868; it was presided over by the President, Z. Phillips, assisted by Vice Presidents F. D. Parish, E. Bemiss and M. Kellogg. The meeting was opened by prayer, by Rev. Thomas Dimm.

The choir then sang "Blow ye the trumpet, blow;" after which the Secretary read the minutes of the annual meeting, which were found correct and approved.

No reports were made by any of the Township Historical Committees; the choir gave old "Coronation."

The Constitution was then read, and the names of twenty-three new members were added to the Society; while the names were being taken down, the choir favored the audience with "Antioch" and "Auld Lang Syne," when the meeting adjourned for dinner.

At dinner, which was served in the grove, a company of ladies, dressed in the costume of 'ye olden time,' with others, waited upon the table, which was loaded to excess with all that heart could wish, or appetite enjoy. The dinner was gotten up under the management of the Sand Hill Ladies' Benevolent Society, and superintended by Mr. Lyman, of the Seven Mile House; the whole affair was extremely creditable to all who were engaged therein.

AFTERNOON SESSION.

About 2 o'clock, the meeting was again called to order, and the choir sang "Windham." The exhibition of relics being next in order, the Secretary presented the following:

Exhibited by Mrs. Diantha Strong, of Oxford, a masonic apron, which formerly belonged to her father, John Boalt, who died some forty years ago; the apron is about sixty years old. Also a copy of Scott's commentaries on the New Testament, printed in 1812, presented by Ozias Strong to his children, who are named therein.

By Miss Amelia Carpenter, of Bloomingville, a pitcher, nearly one hundred years old, which formerly belonged to her grandfather, James Vanness, an early settler in Margaretta; this pitcher was at one time, used for six months to boil coffee in, over coals of fire.

Presented to the Society, by Simon A. Smith, of Lyme, on behalf of his father, Benjamin P. Smith, now an old settler on the Firelands, the American Builders' Companion, published in 1802. Also, Select Remains of Rev. John Brown, of Haddington, written in 1789; this book has been in the family of Mrs. Smith, whose maiden name was Elizabeth Murphy. Also, by the same, a silk badge, of the Bellevue Tippecanoe Club, worn by Mr. Smith, in 1840, at the celebration of the battle of Fort Meigs.

Exhibited by Thomas Fleming, of Townsend, Sandusky County, a fine slate-stone hone, on which is cut the date 1395, it being now 473 years old; this stone was brought from Ireland, and has been owned by the ancestors of Mr. F. for a great many generations back. Also, an ancient razor strop, of wood, supposed to be 200 years old.

By Dr. Isaac Rogers, of Oxford, an old chopping knife; age unknown; it had a new handle put on in 1761, the date being cut on it, and it was an old knife then; this knife has been transmitted from generation to generation, given by father to youngest son.

By Mrs. Isaac Rogers, a pair of cloth shoes or gaiters, with silver tinsel trimming, fancy buckles with glass settings, and wooden heels covered with cloth and leather. Also, a piece of an old silk dress, a highly embroidered pattern, very rich. And lastly, an old Tuscan bonnet, of very antique pattern, long crown and flaring brim; these articles have been in the family of Mrs. R. for a long time; age unknown.

By Mrs. Hannah Thorp, of Groton, a beautiful sea-shell, which formerly belonged to her husband's great-grandmother; age unknown. Also,

a Lieutenant's commission, issued to Augustus Thorp, her husband's grandfather, dated March 8, 1803, and signed by Governor George E. Morton, of New York. Also, an old indenture or land contract, dated in 1797. Also, the family record of the Thorp family, written in 1808.

By Mrs. Merritt, of Groton, the sword of Augustus Thorp, used by him in the war of the Revolution, in which he served as a captain.

By M. Kellogg, of Bronson, two volumes of Nile's Register, published in 1819–20. The Medical and Agricultural Register, from which the Secretary read extracts. History of Vermont, with a map, published in 1794. History of the Reformation in England and Ireland, 1826. Wesley on Original Sin; an Appeal to Matter-of-Fact and Common Sense, by J. Fletcher, (who was a cotemporary of Wesley, and preached his funeral sermon). Dialogue on Universal Restoration, by Winchester, 1788. Dwight's System of Geography of the World, 1812. History of American Revolution in Scriptural style, 1815. English Dictionary and Grammar, 1777. Old school books, such as reader, grammar and arithmetic.

Presented by F. D. Parish, on behalf of E. G. Gibbs, of Milan, an original contract in writing, made between Ephraim Munger and Eliab Munger, April 3, 1818, in which the latter agrees to clear off and fence fifteen acres of land, for the former; at an agreed price of $112 50. Eliab Munger was the father-in-law of Mr. G.

The choir sang "Mear," after which the Rev. James Scott was introduced to the audience, by the President, and delivered the address prepared for the occasion; it was listened to very attentively to the close, and the speaker was requested to furnish a copy for publication in the Pioneer.

The choir gave "Dundee," which was followed by F. D. Reed, with some of his pioneer stories; these never fail to interest the people.

On motion of Judge Parish, the President, together with D. H. Pease and W. C. Allen, were appointed a committee to fix the place of holding the next meeting, and to give the usual notice thereof.

The Secretary then read the following resolution, which was adopted:

Resolved, That the thanks of the Society be hereby tendered to the Committee of Arrangements for the general management this day; to the Choir for the good music, vocal and instrumental; to the Ladies of the Sand Hill Benevolent Society, for the most excellent entertainment furnished on the occasion, and to the Rev. James Scott, for his address, and that he be requested to furnish a copy for publication in the Pioneer.

"Auld Lang Syne" was then given by the choir, and the Secretary congratulated the people of Sand Hill neighborhood, on the style and excellence of the entertainment furnished on the occasion, which was, indeed, of the first order. General satisfaction and congratulation seemed to prevail among the Pioneers, as well as younger ones, and all joined in singing, to Old Hundred, the words,

"Praise God, from Whom all blessings flow."

and then slowly dispersed. Blessings without number, ever attend the Union of the Pioneers.

Z. PHILLIPS, President.
W. C. Allen, Secretary.

QUARTERLY MEETING, 1868.

MORNING SESSION.

The Second Quarterly Meeting of the Firelands Historical Society, for the current year, convened in the Congregational Church, at Sandusky, on Wednesday, Dec. 9th, 1868, and,

at half past 11 A. M., was called to order by President PHILLIPS, assisted by Vice Presidents BEMISS, NILES, PARISH and SUMMERS. The exercises were commenced by prayer, by the Rev. J. B. Walker.

Reading the minutes of last meeting was omitted, for the reason that the printed copy belonging to the Secretary had been mislaid. After a few announcements by the President, the Society took a recess till half-past 1 P. M., and separated to enjoy the hospitalities of the Bay City people.

AFTERNOON SESSION.

Dinner over, the Society again assembled, and the exercises were opened by singing, by the choir, the old tune "Exhortation."

The Constitution of the Society was read and forty-five new members were added to the list

The choir sang "While Shepherds watched their flocks by night."

The exhibition of relics was then taken up, and the following were shown: By the Secretary, a portion of the spreading antlers of a gigantic Elk, which were plowed up on the farm of F. M. Chapman, Esq., of New Haven, some time in the spring of the present year. They were in a field which had formerly been part of an extensive marsh, south of the village of New Haven, about three-fourths of a mile; other horns were found in the same field, but no bones. The size of the animal may be judged, by the fact that these specimens are now about two feet long, though broken off in the largest part of the horn, and from their size, must have been some six feet in length, when perfect, on the head of the animal. They were presented by Mr. C., through Dr. W. F. Kittredge, to the Society, July 1, 1868.

By Mrs. W. F. Converse, of Sandusky City, a large old fashioned blue-check Apron, spun and wove by her great-grandmother, Mrs. Sallie Botchford, of Newtown, Conn., more than one hundred years ago. Mrs. B. attained the great age of ninety-nine years, and died some thirty years ago.

By W. F. Converse, "A Journal of a Tour through Connecticut, Massachusetts, New York, and the north part of Pennsylvania and Ohio, including a year's residence in that part of the State of Ohio styled the New Connecticut, or Western Reserve," written by Zerah Hawley, A. M., in the year 1820, and published by S. Converse, New Haven, 1822. Hon. W. F. Stone entertained the audience some time, by reading extracts from the above work. Mr. Converse presents the book to the Society.

By Mrs. John Mathews, of Sandusky, an ancient Creamer and Tea Caddy. These were formerly the property of her grandmother, Mrs. Nichols, and were a part of the first set of China brought into the town of New Braintree, Worcester County Mass. Also a Cup and Saucer, brought from England, many years ago, and which have descended to her, through a long line of ancestors, during a period of two hundred years past.

By Geo. D. Bergin, of Monroeville, some Water from the Dead Sea. It was gathered about one year ago, and brought from Palestine by Mr. George Turner, of Monroeville.

By Mrs. Newton, of Sandusky, a genuine American Silver Dollar, coined in 1799. Also a copy of the Act, and its amendments, incorporating the city of Sandusky; printed by D. & J. K. Campbell, office of Sandusky Clarion, 1830. Also a copy each of the "Brattleboro Messenger," published in Vermont, May 31, 1824, and the "Farmer's Weekly Messenger," published January 6, 1823, at the same place. The latter paper had for its motto:

"Here shall the press the people' rights maintain,
Unawed by influence and unbribed by gain."

Also the original property asssessments, made in the city of Sandusky, for the years 1819, '20, '21, '22, '23 and '24, from which Judge Parish read extracts.

Also, by the same, an old family Chair, made in Concord, New Hampshire, by a son of General Lowe, of Revolutionary memory. It is about one hundred years old.

The choir then sang, to the tune "Auld Lang Syne," an original hymn, composed by the Rev. J. B. Walker, and written expressly for the meeting of the Pioneers, commencing with

"Our kind old friends we'll ne'er forget,
And scenes of early years,
A few still linger with us yet,
The brave old pioneers.

A copy of the hymn was obtained for publication in the next volume of the "Pioneer."

On motion of Judge Fowler, of Margaretta, a committee, consisting of William Hoyt, of Castalia, W. W. Folwell, of Venice, and J. H. Emerick, of Sandusky, was appointed to analyze the water of Cold Creek, and to report thereon to this Society.

F. D. Parish, of the historical committee, made quite an interesting report of the number and location of buildings in the city of Sandusky, in the year 1820, mentioning many of the old inhabitants, and making a correction in the name of one Farwell, whose christian name is put down as Moses, when it should be Moores Farwell.

The choir sung old "Coronation," in which the congregation all joined.

Remarks on early pioneer life were made by Judge Summers, of Vermillion, Rev. J. B. Walker—now of Grand Traverse, Michigan, but formerly of Sandusky—E. Bemiss, of Groton, and Philander Gregg of Sandusky. The latter gentleman was born in Sandusky in the year 1819, and has lived there ever since, nearly fifty years.

The choir sang "Great God attend while Zion sings," &c., to an old fashioned fugue tune.

Judge Parish spoke of the reception, by the Society, of three numbers of "Reports and Collections of the State Historical Society of Wisconsin," forwarded to us by the last named Society, and hoped a like compliment would be returned by us.

The Secretary briefly mentioned the death of the former biographer of the Society, Judge C. S. Parker, and also that of Judge Fowler, formerly of Milan, both old pioneers on the Firelands.

The choir and congregation joined in singing the Doxology, in Old Hundred, after which the President returned thanks to the citizens of Sandusky for their favors on the occasion. and declared the meeting adjourned till the second Monday of March next.

Z. PHILLIPS, President.
W. C. Allen, Secretary.

QUARTERLY MEETING, 1869.

The third quarterly meeting of this Society was held in Davis' Hall, Monroeville, on Wednesday, March 10. The morning dawned with appearances of a storm, which were soon verified in the strongest reality; snow, rain and sleet mingled together, fell thick and fast. It was at one time during the forenoon resolved to give up the meeting; but the arrival of more pioneers near noon, strengthened the hearts of those already present, and at half-past one o'clock P. M., the President, Z. Phillips, assisted by Vice Presidents J. H. Niles and M. Kellogg, called the meeting to order, and the

exercises commenced with prayer by P. N. Schuyler.

The Secretary read the minutes of the two preceeding meetings, at Sand Hill and Sandusky, and no objection being made they were considered approved; the Constitution was also read, and the names of nine new members were added to the list.

The President then introduced to the audience the speaker of the day, Gen. L. V. Bierce of Akron, who read a carefully prepared address upon the early history of the Western Reserve and Firelands. It was listened to by a small but attentive audience, and at its close, on motion of N. P. Schuyler, a vote of thanks was tendered the speaker, and a copy of the address requested for publication in the Pioneer; indeed it was regretted by many that the prevalence of the storm should keep the people from hearing so interesta lecture.

A pioneer song, originally composed for a meeting of pioneers at Cincinnati, but which had been somewhat changed by Gen. Bierce to suit the locality of the Firelands, was then sung by the audience to the tune of "Auld Lang Syne." It seemed to stir the memories of bygone years in the hearts of the pioneers who were present.

PIONEER SONG.

BY GEN. L. V. BIERCE.

A song of praise for other days,
Let swell from every breast;
Our nation's sod—the gift of God,
The free and lovely west.

CHORUS.

For dear Lake Erie's shore, my boys,
For forest life, then, cheers!
For man and maid, in woodland shade,
God bless the Pioneers.

While winds shall blow, or waters flow,
Or trees be green in Spring,
For Pioneers we'll give our cheers,
And still the chorus sing.

CHORUS.—For dear Lake Erie's, &c.

The men so bold are growing old;
The maidens' locks are white.
Yet, through the tears of by-gone years,
In song let us unite.

CHORUS.—For dear Lake Erie's, &c.

And every grave where sleep the brave,
Shall be a blessed spot;
And o'er the tomb love's roses bloom,
And sweet Forget-me not.

CHORUS.—For dear Lake Erie's, &c.

A few remarks on early pioneer life were made by President Phillips and Vice President Kellogg; they briefly recounted the labors of some of the early settlers, and noted the passing away, one by one, of their old associates.

On motion of the Secretary, the following named gentleman, to-wit: Wm. Case, D. H. Pease, F. Sears, J. W. Baker, Giles Boalt, and Daniel Miner, were appointed a committee to prepare for the annual meeting at Norwalk in June next.

The President returned thanks to the citizens of Monroeville for their hospitality on the occasion, and the audience joined in singing the Doxology, when the pioneers adjourned to meet at Norwalk, on the second Wednesday of June next.

Z. PHILLIPS, President.
W. C. ALLEN, Secretary.

ANNUAL MEETING, 1869.

MORNING SESSION.

The annual meeting of this Society convened in Fountain Hall, on Wednesday, June 9, at 11 o'clock A. M., and was called to order by President PHILLIPS, assisted by Vice Presidents NILES, SUMMERS and KELLOGG; the meeting was opened by prayer by Rev. T. F. Hildreth.

The minutes of the last meeting were read by the Secretary an found correct.

Upon call of Township Historical Committees, J. H. Niles, from Nor-

wich Township, reported progress.

The Secretary made a verbal report of the operations of the Society for the past year, and the success of the meetings held at different places. The membership of the Society has increased about one hundred during the year. The Pioneer for the year 1869 is not yet published, but it is expected to appear in September next.

The report of the Treasurer reads as follows:

Due from the former Treasurer, ...	$54 57
Received from new membership, ...	27
Total	$81 57
Paid expenses, as per report,	$27 90
To be collected from former Treasurer, ...	54 57--82 47

The following persons, viz: O. Jenney, F. Sears, A. Porter, I. T. Reynolds, C. Beardsley, P. Comstock and D. G. Baker, were appointed a committee to report names for officers of the Society, for the coming year.

The Constitution was read, and six persons became members of the Society; after some announcements and preliminary business, the Society adjourned for dinner.

AFTERNOON SESSION.

After recess, came the exhibition of relics; the following were shown:

By Miss E. S. Kinney, of Norwalk, an embroidered linen counterpane, made by Mrs. Keziah Davis, of Long Island, about one hundred and thirty-five years ago, or in 1734; the entire work was done by Mrs. D., in bright and permanent colors; it was, during the Revolutionary war, buried, for concealment from the enemy; this piece of work was the admiration of all present, especially the ladies.

By Mrs. P. Reding, of Norwalk, a pair of small linen stockings, worn by her father, Luke Keeler, when he was an infant, in 1770; also, the wedding stockings of said Luke Keeler, worn by him in 1793; these last were a fine article.

By S. P. Towne, of Norwalk, an infant's shoe, made in the year 1764, at Rowley, Essex Co., Mass., by Samuel Brockelbank, for the grandmother of the exhibitor, Miss Betsy Brockelbank.

By Samuel Thompson, of Fremont, who was present at the meeting, a coat worn by him in the war of 1812, in which he served from the commencement to the close, having been engaged in several battles; also a musket ball, with which he was wounded at the battle of Chippewa; this ball passed through his neck from the front side, and lodged in the back part, from which it was extracted by the surgeon of the army.

By Mrs. E. F. Pond, of Olena, an infant's shoe, one hundred years old, made for and worn by Mary Rogers, of Fishkill, Duchess County, New York, in 1769; she was the mother of D. P. Pond, of Olena; also a set of shoe-buckles, eighty years old, worn by the same person, when a young lady; she died at the residence of her son, above named, in 1855, aged eighty-six years; also a copy of the Methodist Magazine, for 1825, and two copies of the Christian Advocate, for 1836; these last were presented to the Society.

The committee on nomination of officers reported as follows:

For President, Z. Phillips, Berlin.
For Vice Presidents, John H. Niles, Norwich; Benjamin Summers, Vermillion; Martin Kellogg, Bronson; Hosea Townsend, New London; Philo Wells, Vermillion.

Corresponding Secretaries, P. N. Schuyler, Norwalk; F. D. Parish, Sandusky.

Recording Secretary, W. C. Allen, Norwalk.

Treasurer, F. Sears, Norwalk.

On motion, the report was received, and committee discharged;

and on further motion, all of the above named were duly elected.

Judge Summers spoke of the decease of the Biographer, Judge S. C. Parker, and suggested the election of a new one to fill the place; on motion of P. N. Schuyler, Judge Summers was chosen as Biographer; it was also voted that the same committee for last year on publication of the Pioneer, be continued this year.

The President returned his thanks to the Society for the honor conferred on him, and continuing his remarks, briefly reviewed his early settlement on the Firelands, relating some incidents connected therewith.

Pioneer speeches and stories followed, from J. H. Niles, of Norwich; Philo Wells, of Vermillion; Martin Kellogg, of Bronson; Samuel Thompson, of Fremont; Clement Beardsley, of Vermillion, and Hosea Townsend, of New London; they briefly recounted the trials of the early pioneers, and related, also, many amusing incidents; as no report could be taken down, the Society lose the permanent benefit of such matters of history, but the interest of hearing them related is ever the same; it is always unabated.

Rev. T. F. Hildreth was called upon, and responded in a few well chosen remarks, giving a sketch of the settlement of his father's family, in Fairfield, in 1833; then followed a well deserved encomium upon the early settlers and faithful workers of this country, appealing to the fathers and mothers of to-day, to train up their children to honor and respect old age.

Mr. Beebe, an old settler and resident in Elyria, was called upon by the President, and responded in greeting the Society, and rejoiced that he was able to attend one of its meetings; he settled in Elyria, in 1815, and, in 1817, in this town, obtained a license to keep tavern in Elyria; had been identified with the mail service for many years, between Cleveland and Lower Sandusky, (now Fremont); came from home, to-day, in one hour, while his stages formerly took twenty-four hours for the same trip.

Dr. A. D. Skellenger, of New London, invited the Society to hold its next meeting at that place; but on motion of O. Jenney, the President, Vice President Kellogg and Secretary Allen were constituted a committee to fix the place of holding the next meeting, after duly consulting citizens from other places.

On call of the President for Pioneers who had been settled on the Firelands for fifty years and upward, about fifty persons responded by rising to their feet; indeed, the Old Pioneers were well represented at this meeting.

On motion of P. N. Schuyler, a vote of thanks was given to the Sons of Temperance, for the use of their Hall, on this occasion.

The audience joined in singing "Praise God, from Whom all blessings flow," and were then dismissed by the President.

Z. PHILLIPS, President.
W. C. ALLEN, Secretary.

QUARTERLY MEETING, 1869.

FIRELANDS PIONEER SOCIETY.

MORNING SESSION.

The first Quarterly Meeting of the above named Society, for the current year, convened in the new Town Hall, at New London, on Wednesday, Sept. 8, 1869, at 11 o'clock A. M., President Z. Phillips in the Chair, assisted by Vice Presidents J. H. Niles, Hosea Townsend and Philo Wells.

While the audience was assembling, the Union Brass Band, under the direction of T. Belden, Esq., of

Wellington, gave several airs; a band of fifes and drums also added to the musical part of the programme on the occasion.

The President then introduced the Rev. H. P. Sage, of Huntington, a patriarch of nearly seventy winters, who opened the exercises by prayer. He was followed by a Quartette Club, with organ accompaniment, who gave the song "One Hundred Years Ago."

The Secretary then read the minutes, and no objection being offered, or alteration suggested, they were considered approved. The reading of the Constitution was followed by the addition of thirty new members to the Society. The Quartette gave the song of "A 1000 Years," and the Society, under the direction of the Marshal of the Day, formed in procession and marched to Barrett's Hall for dinner, in the following order, viz: Officers of the Society, preceded by the Band; Pioneers, 75 years of age and over; Pioneers 65 years of age and over; Pioneers who had been on the Firelands thirty years and over; Citizens in general. The crowd was so great that it was with much trouble the tables were reached, but when they were, every one easily found his place, and the vast quantity of excellent eatables began to disappear rapidly. None are so hungry as Pioneers, and no dinners are so good as pioneer dinners.

AFTERNOON SESSION.

The vast company, numbering from 800 to 1000, again began to fill up the Town Hall, which was soon packed in every nook and corner, stairways and all, and yet many were unable to get in. The Band enlivened the people by one of their best, and the Quartette Club gave the song "A Hundred Years to Come."

The President announced Dr. A. D. Skellenger, as Historian, who occupied the next hour and a half with a history of the origin of the Firelands, in brief, and a full account of the settlement of New London, in in particular. The paper was filled with anecdotes of the early settlers, some of whom were then present, and who seemed to live over again the years of long ago, as they listened to the speaker.

The exhibition of relics came next, and the following were shown: Presented to the Society by Dr. A. D. Skellenger, of New London, a medical work, entitled "The Endinburgh New Dispensatory," printed in Philadelphia, 1796. By Mrs. L. Barnes, of New London, a piece of printed linen bed-balance, bought before the Revolutionary War, of some traders on the Island of Manhattan, (now the city of New York.)

Exhibited by W. H. Howard, of Rochester, a Gridiron, on which the first loaf of bread was baked in the township of Huntington, in the year 1818; also, a fancy colored linen pocket handkerchief, very old; three linen towels, one made by Sarah Kelsey, (grandmother of Mrs. H.) in 1789, one in 1797, and the last by Mrs. Howard in 1836, when she was only twelve years old; also, a small pewter salt cellar, more than 100 years old. By C. E. Manchester, Editor of New London Times, the uniform and sword of a Fife Major in the Connecticut militia, worn by his father fifty years ago; also, the claw of an enormous lobster caught in Long Island Sound, which, from the size of the claw must have been over four feet long. By Harvey Sackett, of Ruggles, an old fashioned bush-hook, owned by Samuel Eldred (father-in-law of Mr. S.) in Connecticut more than 50 years ago, it having been in the possession of Mr. Sackett for 30 years. By Samuel Teller, of Greenwich, a lot of old books, consisting of an ancient As-

tronomy and Geography, published in 1765, a Bible of 1769, the Psalms of David, 1789, the Schoolmaster's Assistant, 1806, and old almanacs from 1830 to 1844 inclusive. By Mrs. Rowley, of New London, a linen bed-spread, spun and woven by her mother, Lucy Munson, daughter of Dea. John Munson, of Milton, Connecticut, in 1789; this was a valuable article. By Mrs. Lucinda Slayman, of New London, a Bible over 50 years old, and a common earthern sugar bowl over 40 years old. By Eliza Burnett, of New London, a highly colored printed cotton shawl, which was formerly purchased for her mother, Susannah Eaton, in Maine, about 100 years ago. By Mrs. Sally Hemenway, of New London, a housewife made and owned by her great-grand-mother, more than 100 years ago. By Mrs. Rufus Sheldon, of Greenwich, a brass pepper-box owned by her grand-mother 111 years ago. By S. P. North, of New London, a four-dollar Continental Note, 1776, and a large pewter platter, brought from England by the North family, at the settlement of Stonington, Conn., in 1638, being now nearly 250 years old. By Hannah Whitford, of East Clarksfield, a white embroidered cotton shawl, now upward of 80 years old. By Geo. Hofstatter, of New London, a set of spoon molds, 200 years old, and two pewter spoons recently cast in the same. By Frank Salisbury, of Greenwich, a piece of petrified Stag horn, now about one foot long; an excellent specimen of petrifaction. By Dr. Geo. Kester, of New London, part of a set of silver ear-rings and brooches, dug up by him, some time since, in Richland county; they undoubtedly belonged to the Aborigines. By Hiram Tanner, of Rochester, a small broad-ax, now about 70 years old, and which was used in the State of New York to hew out the first hundred plow beams ever made for Wood's plow. By B. H. Fanning, of New London, a wooden rumlet, or jug, which is as good as new, although it has been in constant use in the family of Mr. F. and his ancestors for more than 60 years. By Sherman Smith, of Clarksfield, an old-fashioned semi-circular grain-fan, for cleaning or winnowing different kinds of grain, and first used about 52 years ago.

The Brass Band again enlivened the exercises by some good music, after which the President introduced the Rev. D. C. Howard, pastor of — —— Church of Tiffin, who delivered an excellent address, though occupying only about twenty minutes in its delivery. At its close, on motion of the Secretary, a vote of thanks was extended to Messrs. Howard and Skellenger, for their addresses, and copies were requested for publication in the Pioneer; and on motion of the same gentleman a vote of thanks was given to the Committee of Arrangements and to the citizens generally for their bountiful hospitalities extended to the Pioneers on this occasion.

A Committee of two from each township on the Firelands was appointed to canvass for the next volume of the Pioneer. Said Committee is as follows.

Ruggles, Harvey Sackett, —— McCready.

New London, A. D. Skellenger, A. Porter.

Greenwich, A. D. Jenney, Robert Griffin.

Fitchville, J. C. Curtiss, R. S. Miles.

Ripley, F. C. Payne, A. Frayer.

Fairfield, H. L. Moulton, Ichabod B. Hoyt.

New Haven, F. M. Chapman, A. York.

Greenfield, E. C. Parsons, Levi Platt.

Richmond, W. A. Keesey, D. Sweetland.

Norwich, Nelson Murray, E. W. Gilson.
Sherman, Lovell McCrillis, A Raymond.
Lyme, J. S. Pierce, E. O. Merry.
Peru, Chauncey Woodruff, H. Adams.
Ridgefield, James Green, A. R. Marsh.
Bronson, J. H. Sterling, N. S. Hakes.
Norwalk, F. Sears, O. Jenney.
Hartland, F. R. Waldron, C. H. Jackson.
Townsend, W. T. Bowen, Harlow House.
Clarksfield, M. C. Furlong, Sherman Smith.
Wakeman, E. J. Bunce, John Strong.
Florence, Johnathan Ward, Homer Brooks.
Vermillion, Jas. Cuddeback, W. H. Crane.
Milan, Seth Jennings, V. Beverstock.
Huron, Wilbor & Brooks.
Berlin, Z. Phillips, Wm. Tillinghast.
Oxford, A. W. Prout.
Portland, Dr. A. H. Agard, Geo. J. Anderson.
Groton, Isaac McKesson, E. Bemis.
Margaretta, Judge Fowler.
Perkins, D. B. Taylor.
Kelley's Island, Addison Kelley.
Danbury, John Kelley.

On account of the lateness of the hour, the Society were unable to listen to a short address from the Rev. H. P. Sage, of Huntington, who was expected to address us, and who kindly tendered the use of his manuscript that the Society might publish the same.

Without further proceedings, the President declared the Society adjourned, to meet at the call of the officers.

Z. PHILLIPS, President.

W. C. ALLEN, Sec'y.

BIOGRAPHICAL—DR. DANIEL TILDEN.

DANIEL TILDEN, M. D.

Another pioneer has gone. Another of those whose lives are a part of our early history, and one whose long life bound together generations of men, has finished his labors and gone to his rest. That he labored long, untiringly and well, is the testimony of hundreds who have grown up around him from their infancy almost to old age. There are men among us to-day who breathed their first breath in his hands who are now in middle life, and some who are well down the sunset slope of the journey.

Dr. Daniel Tilden was born August 19, 1788, in the village of Lebanon, Grafton County, New Hampshire. He was named after his uncle, Colonel Daniel Tilden, of Revolutionary fame. His father, with four brothers, served in the Revolutionary war, all were taken prisoners, and all came out of the struggle with honorable scars.

The Doctor was educated at the public schools in his native town until ten years of age, when his father, who was a merchant in Lebanon, removed to Whitestown, New York, and settled on a farm. Here Daniel was educated as a farmer in the summer, where he doubtless received much of the physical vigor which in after life enabled him to endure the arduous labors which he experienced in the practice of his

profession in a new country. During the winter seasons he attended school until sventeen years of age, when, through the business misfortunes of his father, Daniel was thrown upon his own resources. Having by his own exertions been enabled to put a little money in his pocket, and having received a literary degree from Clinton College, New York, he selected the profession of medicine as a calling worthy of his endeavors, and entered the office of Dr. Joseph White, of Cherry Valley, in 1807.

Failing in health, he traveled during the summer and fall of the same year, and then returned to the office of Drs. White & Capron, where he continued his readings and recitations until May, 1809, when he attended his first course of medical lectures at Fairfiield, New York, where he continued his studies until the Spring of 1811. During the Summer and Fall of 1811 he continued his studies under the tutelage of, and practiced with Dr. Scott Hastings, a physician of celebrity, when he entered Dartmouth College, and received his degree of M. D. in the Spring of 1812. During the same year he was examined by the State Board of Regents for the State of New York, in session at Albany, and received a diploma from that body of medical men. In the year 1827 he also reseived an honorary degree from the Berkshire Medical College of Massachusetts.

On April 10, 1814, he married Nancy Drake, a sister of Colonel C. F. Drake, now in Government employ on Green Island, and formerly an old resident of this city.

In the spring of 1817, having been charmed with the wonderful stories of the "Far West," he arranged a wagon train, and started from Casinova, New York, for the Firelands. After a long and tedious journey he, with his family and others, crossed the Huron river on the 3d of July, and on the next day completed the journey and settled at a point on the prairies, now known as Cooke's Corners. Many of his old friends and survivors will recall the enthusiasm with which he used to speak of the beauties of the prairies, as he, for the first time, looked over them, on the morning of that national birthday. Enamored as he was by the fertility of the boundless acres, which were spread around him, so beautifully blanketed to his vision, it is not strange that he invested largely in lands. A purchase of two thousand acres of such lands seemed a fortune to one accustomed to the more barren lands of the East; but a little experience taught him that the income was inversely to the size of the farm, and with hundreds of others, he soon found himself "land-poor."

In 1825 he removed to Norwalk, Huron County, and taking into partnership Dr. William F. Kitteredge, from Massachusetts, who is still a resident of Norwalk, devoted himself to the practice of medicine and surgery.

He, at this time, had become largely known, and often rode over the then sparsely settled country long distances, to attend to professional calls, even in adjacent counties.

One evening the Doctor was called upon by the chief of the Senecas, then located near where Tiffin now stands, to go at once and see his son, very ill of a pleurisy. He mounted his horse and followed the lead of the old chief, as he led the way along the trail through the forests, in the dark of the night, until they reached the hut where the royal patient awaited the coming of the white man's medicine man. All possible speed was made on the part of the anxious chief and father, with the white man's doctor; but they ar-

rived too late. After the father left the son's disease grew so much worse that the red man's doctor was called to his relief. With nothing to guide him but the empirical fact that the local abstraction of blood sometimes gave relief, the red man's doctor took the bottom out of a powder-horn and, after scarifying the surface over the seat of pain, placed the open end of the horn over the bleeding scratches, and with his mouth over the small opening in the tip of the instrument, drew a horn full of blood. This rude mode of cupping had so relieved the patient that the doctor, when he arrived, had but little to do, and, after taking a little rest, he started for home. When he reached there he found drawn up before his door a little Indian cart loaded with 100 pounds of maple sugar as his *honorarium* for services rendered a royal family.

In 1828 he was elected to the State Senate and being re-elected, held the position until 1835. In 1839 he left Norwalk and came to Sandusky where he continued in the practice of medicine until some two years before his death, when the infirmities of age obliged him to give up entirely what they had from time to time forced him to relinquish in part. Thus at the age of nearly four score years he threw off the professional mantle which he had worn for nearly sixty years, doing meantime an amount of professional labor greater than most other men could have endured.

He was for several years President of the Erie County Medical Society; and for a series of years was its delegate in the Ohio State Medical Society; was also its delegate to the American Medical Association and elected as one of the Vice Presidents of that body in 1854. In 1857, at its session it this city, he was elected President of the Ohio State Medical Society. In 1856 he was made an honorary member of the New York Medical Society.

Such is an outline view of the more prominent landmarks along the pathway of a protracted and most busy life. A man of broad views and keen discernment, he took extended out-looks, was always emphatic in his opinions and bold in their advocacy.

As a husband and a father he was always devoted, affectionate, kind and indulgent. In his treatment of the sick was always attentive and faithful in his efforts, hopeful, rich in expedients and repartee; oftentimes curing his patients with pleasant and hopeful promises where medicine alone, would have failed, esteeming it better, as he once told the writer, that a patient should die in good humor, than to be frightened to death by the length of his doctor's face.

He was always assiduous in his attentions to the sick, oftentimes spending hours day and night by the bedside, observing symptoms, administering medicines himself and noting their operation and the changing condition of the patient, at the same time giving largely of cheerful encouragement. It seemed to be a labor of love with him to give his services to the very poor. He not only felt it a duty to see that the poor man had the best attentions he could bestow, but seemed to take pleasure in watching him with extra care and would often himself procure and pay for the medicines which the poor man could not pay for. He once said he liked to attend the poor man who never expected to pay for his services as he felt at liberty to visit him as often as he liked. To the colored poor he gave especial attentions.

Naturally liberal and humanitarian in his views and having an abhorrence of oppression and injustice

exercised by the stronger over a weaker party, he very early became anti-slavery in his political convictions, and was especially liberal in his professional administrations to the colored poor. He was for thirty-five years an out-spoken advocate of the right of the slave to freedom, and never omitted to improve an opportunity to plead his case at the bar of public opinion when to do so was both unpopular and even hazardous. During the last years of his life the recollection of his efforts to befriend the poor and the enslaved race, and the thought that he had lived to see the colored man free, gave him great pleasure and he often alluded to these things with tears of joy.

On the 19th of August, 1868, on the invitation of Mrs. Mills, his daughter, he greeted a large party of his old friends who came in to celebrate his 80th birth-day. His health continued good for a man of his years until the last of December following, when he was taken rather severely ill, and from that time on until death relieved him of the burdens of life, he was a great sufferer. He rarely admitted through his protracted illness that he suffered much physical pain, but his mental condition was strangely peculiar, and with the helplessness which grew upon him with each passing month, he was often heard to exclaim that he was miserable, and longer life was undesirable to him, and although sometimes impatient for delivery from his sufierings, yet in his reflective moments he expressed a willingness to submit in resignation and abide his time without a murmur.

As the warm days of spring came, he seemed to decline in strength, and without the intervention of any active disease he gradually failed until on the morning of the 7th of May, 1870, he sank away and died without a struggle, in the 82d year of his age.

All that the most devoted affection could do to render his last days comfortable, was done, and it was a most afflictive thought to those who were exhausting every human resource for his comfort, that he who had done so much for the relief of others should himself be so uncomfortable despite all the attention which devoted affection could bestow.

The burial obsequies took place from his late home on Hancock street, Sandusky, on Tuesday, May 10, under the direction of the Masonic Fraternity of this city. The remains were followed by the family and relatives—the physicians of the city—and a large concourse of friends from the city and vicinity.

HISTORICAL ADDRESS.

Read at the Quarterly Meeting of the Historical Society of the Firelands, September 8th, 1869, at New London.

BY A. SKELLENGER, M. D.

Mr. President, Members, Ladies and Gentlemen:—In attempting to discharge the assigned duties of Historian on this very interesting and important occasion, after briefly referring to a few events, as connecting links, uniting us and our titles to the past, my remarks will principally be confined to New London, and that part which is now included within the incorporated limits.

All persons and places naturally date back to some illustrious transactions of the world's record. So we of the Firelands, connect ourselves with the "Connecticut Western Reserve;" the Reserve to the State of Connecticut; the State, to the Plymouth Council; and the Council to the English Crown. To a few of these dates I will very briefly direct your memories. The Plymouth Council of New England was chartered by King James the First, in 1620, extending between 40 and 48 deg., North Latitude from Sea to Sea. In 1630 the Plymouth Council granted to their president, the Earl of Warwick, the Southern portion of their territory, known as Connecticut; and he, in 1631, granted the same to Lords Say, Seal and Brooks, and their associates; which charter was ratified by King Charles I. upon the payment of £16,000. These lords conveyed their title and claim to a Connecticut Colony who succeeded in obtaining from King Charles II. a ratified charter on the 20th day of April, 1662, as "Governor and Company of the English Colony of Connecticut." Bounded on the north by Massachusetts, south by the South Sea, or 41 deg. North Latitude, and west by the South Sea or Pacific ocean. But, as New York and New Jersey had already been excepted from this immense wilderness, the "Connecticut Colony" were content to only claim all the territory west of the Delaware river, and west between 41 and 42 deg. North Latitude, as far as the Pacific ocean. Within this belt of territory the Association of Connecticut gentlemen obtained the "Susquehannah purchase," extending from 10 miles east to 120 miles west of the Susquehannah river. Soon afterwards another company, "The Delaware Association," purchased all that portion of the belt beginning on the east at the Delaware river, and running west to the Susquehannah purchase. The Susquehannah Company commenced to survey in 1752; the Delaware purchase in 1757. These two purchases constitute what was afterward known in the history of early western settlements as the Wyoming Country. About 1763, and down to 1769 several unsuccessful attempts were made at permanent settlements in this beautiful valley; the Indians

either killed, or drove all away. Forty Connecticut pioneers, in 1769, made a permanent settlement, and erected a Fort, afterward known to us as "Fort Forty." In 1774 the Legislature of Connecticut exercised jurisdiction over the Wyoming Country, and named the settlements West-more-land, and annexed it to Litchfield County, Connecticut. The inhabitants of Westmoreland were represented in the Legislature of the parent State, and had all their officers appointed over them by the home Legislature, though separated several hundreds of miles. The population in 1778 was 2,300; value £20,000.

It was about this time a very serious difficulty arose concerning title, between the people of Connecticut, and what were called "Border Ruffians" of Pennsylvania. The State of Pennsylvania claimed the territory under the grant of 1661 to Sir William Penn, some 40 years later than the charter to the Plymouth Council by James I Penn's northern boundary (by mistake) was 42 degrees North Latitude, which completely covered the Connecticut territory. The several claimants allowed contentious litigations and bitter strifes to ripen into a bloody. war. The British, Pennsylvania Tories and Indians took advantage of the war among the settlers and the "Wyoming Massacre," one of the most horrible of Revolutionary record, was the result. The question of titles (for unpublished reasons) by commissioners, appointed by Congress, was given to Pennsylvania in 1782. But, after this, when the authorities of Pennnsylvania attempted to eject the people of Connecticut from their dearly bought, and still worse, dearly defended homes they again flew to arms; and for six long years this once beautiful valley flowed with blood! Connecticut acquiesced in the decision of the commissioners, and the Legislature of Pennsylvania in 1778 agreed that the "Yankees" and "Pennymites" might live in peace.

Thus it was that the State of Connecticut lost all her territory as far west as the west line of Pennsylvania. In 1786, September 14, Connecticut followed the example of New York, Virginia, and some other States, and ceded to the United States, for the purpose of aiding the General Government in meeting its heavy liabilities, all of her western lands lying west of 120 miles west of the western boundary of Pennsylvania, reserving this 120 miles east and west by about 72 miles north and south, of which the twelve northern counties of Ohio are principally formed, and from this fact, that Connecticut did thus *reserve* from the United States this tract of territory, it took the name of "The Connecticut Western Reserve," comprising, without measuring much of Lake Erie, 3,300,000 acres of land. During the Revolution some 1,800 famlies of the towns of Fairfield, Danbury, Norwalk, New Haven, Greenwich and New London suffered severely by heavy losses by fire and other causes resulting from the invasion by the British, and as a part recompense, the State, in 1792, granted a half million of acres to be divided among the sufferes, and that the estate might be properly managed, the proprietors were incorporated, in 1796, as "The Proprietors of the half-million acres of land lying south of Lake Erie;" another title was, "The Sufferers' one half million acres of land," now known as the Firelands of the Western Reserve; embracing all of Huron and Erie Counties, Ruggles, in Ashland County, and Kelley's Island.* The Firelands were

* Danbury in Ottawa County was originally a part of the Firelands, but Kelley's Island was not, See Pioneer, vol. 4, page 30—Ed.

first permanently settled at Huron, by John Flemond (or Flemont), a Canadian Frenchman, in 1790. He had an American native for his wife, and was of great use to subsequent white settlers, on account of his familiarity with the customs of the Indians. He lived and died on his farm, about two miles south of the mouth of Huron River. Tanner and Downing and their families settled in 1807, Jabez Wright in 1808. between 1806 and 1808 the Firelands were surveyed and laid off into townships.

NEW LONDON TOWNSHIP, RANGE 20, TOWN 2.

When the land of New London township came into market, it was owned by a few individuals, having been purchased of the "Sufferers" for trifling sums of money. Mr. Almon Ruggles was one of the general agents. The different sections were owned as follows: 1st section by Nathaniel Richards, Samuel Mathers and Esther Cleveland. 2d and 4th sections by Nathaniel Ledyard. 3d section by Nathaniel Richards.

Mr. Nathaniel Ledyard, who owned the 2d and 4th sections of this township, was a son of Colonel William Ledyard,* and came to Ohio intending to erect, on the Vermillion River in Hartford Township, upon 400 acres now owned by John Ransom, a mill and various manufacturing machinery. He had previously promised by flaming hand-bills, posted over the land throughout the State of New York, "that the first forty families (twenty in each of sections two and four) that settled on his land in New London, should have a deed of fifty acres as a gift, and for the next one hundred acres, one dollar per acre, and, to make this latter payment as light as possible for the settlers, to take of them, at his mill and woolen factory, wheat, corn, wool &c." Before this was accomplished, he was taken with the fever and died in October, 1815, at the house of Almon Ruggles, at Vermilion. He left a large number of minor children.

A few of the settlers made an actual contract with Mr. Ledyard, and obtained by a decree of Court, a deed of fifty acres. Mr. Hubbard, Mr. Anderson and perhaps one or two others, were among the lucky settlers who got the fifty acres as promised. The settlers that came to the fourth section under the expectation of getting land given to them all failed, as no personal contract was entered upon during the life of Mr. Ledyard, and the administrators repudiated. The early settlers had not heard of Ledyard's death before they came. The most of them were related to each other by marriage ties, and were very poor; too poor to go farther, and no money with which to go back, and most of them, being very pious, put their trust in the Lord, and having reached what to them had been the "promised land," were compelled to remain in the wilderness nearly forty years, till the heirs arrived at majority, before they could get deeds for their lands. Many became discouraged, disheartened, sold out their improvements for a trifle, and roamed on, almost as poor as they came.

FIRST SETTLERS OF NEW LONDON.

Many of the first settlers of the township have been noticed in the 4th volume of the Fireland Pioneer,

* This Col. Ledyard is the one that so bravely defended Fort Griswold, which protected the city of New London, but being finally compelled to surrender to Major Bromfield, a tory, who upon entering the Fort enquired "Who commands this garrison?" Ledyard replied, "I did, sir, but you do now," at the same time handing him his sword. Bromfield immediately plunged it through the body of Ledyard to the hilt, killing him upon the spot.

of 1863, and will not be repeated at this time. Solomon Hubbard's family was with some others omitted.

Mr. Hubbard came from Livingston County, New York, and first stopped at Florence, February 12, 1816, and the next April came to this place and settled on land now owned by his son Holsey. A Mr. Nathan Smith had previously contracted with Ledyard for it, and Hubbard went on this lot subject to his contract; the enforcement of which enabled Hubbard to get fifty acres as a gift of settlement. The little lot now owned by Wm. Prosser on the east side of the road opposite his house, is the first land [one acre] ever deeded to an actual settler, and that was deeded to William Sweet. Solomon Hubbard and Hosea Townsend were the next two that got deeds, theirs for 50 acres, and were obtained with the assistance of the Court.

The two oldest living children of New London. Joseph B., son of Solomon Hubbard, now living in Cincinnati, is the oldest living white male born in the township Aug. 27, 1817. Mrs. Eunice Knapp, daughter of I. P. Case, is the oldest white child now living; now resides in the village, born August 10, 1817. The first born was a son of John Hendryx, born Feb. 29, 1816; it lived only a few months, and was the first death in the township.

THE THREE SMITH BROTHERS,

Sherman, Austin and Major, came to this place in November, 1815, in company with I. P. Case, Simeon Munson, Mrs. Porter, and their families, from Ct., though at this time from Springfield, Clark County, Ohio. Sherman was the oldest boy, and had been drafted in the war of 1812. Both father and mother were dead, and a sister, by the name of Betsey, had been bound out to a Mr. French in Springfield, "thinking it would be better for the girl," as the poor orphan children were left entirely destitute. After the boys came to this place they saw harder fare than many are now willing to believe. I have been told by Major that for days all he had to live upon was *leeks*, and for years he had no garment of clothing beside those made of buckskin; shirt, pants and vest, but by honest industry, the boys managed to live. But how about Betsey? Word came that French treated her very badly, that she was used in Ohio as the Blacks were in Kentucky, "a little white slave girl." Sherman was now about twenty-two years of age, and he had seen some of those events of war that make men brave. He resolved to recover her. He went to Clark county, kept secreted for three days—an opportunity presented—he kidnapped his sister, and with his stolen treasure made his way as best he might to New London. Before he got home, French and another man in their fury had preceded them! Sherman was arrested and taken before Esq. Case. The men were determined to take Betsey back with them. The people were greatly excited over the matter, and war was declared. Mr. T. Porter informed the gentlemen that they should never take her back *unless they passed over his dead body!* Reports say that Esquire Case told Sherman he had better settle it if he could, telling him that "a note given while he was under arrest could not be collected." A note for $100 was given and Betsey was allowed to remain, but the note was never afterward heard from. A few years later [Sherman had in the meantime been elected the first Township Clerk] while all were from home, the house was burned and the township records and all the furniture and clothing consumed. Thus again were they all left destitute. But the noble pioneers ceased not from their

labors day or night, till another house was up for the Smith family to live in! Betsey married Zelotus Barritt as his first wife, making, it is said, one of the best women of this section of country. Austin died many years ago. Sherman and Major are now old and highly respected citizens of Clarksfield. Major has one daughter, married to Mr. Barnum, Sherman has four married daughters, Mrs. B. G. Fanning, Mrs. Esquire Blackman, Mrs. Col. George Bissel and Mrs. A. Fox—all favorably known to us.

History of a few of the events and Biographyzation of some of the First Settlers, of what is now the village of New London, Ohio.

A narrative of this portion of the 4th Section, divides itself into three quite distinct periods.

First, the Pioneer days, from the arrival of John Cory's family in 1816 to about the time of Henry King's coming in 1839.

Second, from Kings's to the building of the C. C. & C. railroad, and the subsequent incorporaton of the village, in 1853.

Third, from the time of the incorporation to the present.

Each of these three periods have some peculiar characteristics.

The First is noted for hard work, very little money, much poverty, hunger and suffering at times, windows of oiled paper, buck-skins, and old cotton cloth, and, when these were wanting, the heads of some half-dozen children took the place, when somebody tried to drive by an ox team, bark coverings for roofs, split logs for floors, no carpets, stools for chairs, spinning wheels for pianos, love, kindness, and generous social equality, as entertainment for guests. This period also includes the mormon religion and degradation, from June 1831 to 1834, and iron wedges in the pocket instead of gold and silver.

The Second Period is noted for great personal independence, individual energy, the disappearance of the log cabins, the erection of comfortable frame houses, rag carpets, in a few iustances, paper money in the pocket instead of instruments for splitting wood. In short, the time when most persons did about as they pleased, rushing madly and headlong in the paths for riches and fame.

The Third is but just begun, noted for permanent improvements, brick houses and three story blocks in place of wood, men's actions regulated by municipal law, increase of social refinement and ornamental beauty, with rapid advancement in wealth and a business capacity, together with an ardent devotion to the sciences, music and the fine arts.

Since each subsequent epoch is so minutely and deeply interwoven with, and dependant upon the First period (that of hard times, the times that sorely tried the poor man's soul, it being the foundation stratum of all we are, and as a future city all we may ever hope to become,) it is eminently proper to carefully examine this epoch and its population. The first families, as a general rule, were related to each other by marriage, of very limited means, a poor common school education, yet quite religious.

The following are some of the first families that settled in this immediate vicinity: John Corry, Richard Bailey, Ezekiel Sampson, Isaac Sampson, Joseph Merrifield, Francis Keyes, Peter Kingsley, Henry Bates, Truman Bates, his mother, brothers and sister Huldah, Abram Dayton Hendryx, Nathan Hoyt, John Tainter, Benjamin DeWitt, Dr. Richard P. Christopher, David Loveland and Phillip Sworthout.

As these are mostly dead, married or gone, we will proceed to speak

more particularly concerning some of them.

JOHN COREY.

Mr. John Corey, and Phebe, his wife, [daughter of Abram Hendryx] from Steuben Co., N. Y., and their family, then consisting of Polly, John, Hannah, Benjamin and Phebe, came to what is now within the Incorporated Limits of New London, and settled on lot seven (7), section four (4), now owned by T. B. Hemenway, in the month of July, 1816.

Mr. Corey erected the first Log Cabin and set out the first Orchard, and started, on his farm, the first Cemetery or Burying-Ground, and made quite an improvement. He was when he came a very poor, quite illiterate, but a very generous and confiding man, neglected at any time his own interest to accommodate a suffering neighbor, failed to secure a good title to his farm, and in 1829 Devil John Hendryx [so called by everybody on account of his *peculiar Deviltry*] "bought it out" [as the old settlers tell me] from under him. After this he lived in the south-west part of the township till 1837, when he and his wife went to Michigan, near Coldwater, and died several years ago.

Polly Corey, eldest daughter, was a young lady when they came; she married a Mr. John Day of the township on the — of December, '17; this being the first couple married from this place, it has its points of interest. They had agreed to be married at their uncle A. Hendryx's in Richland county, at that time, now near Savannah, Ashland county. The country was all wood, as Ruggles was not settled till 1823; they mounted the same horse, rode over hills, through streams and woods, and dispatched a friend to find Esquire Ralston, and were duly married according to their plighted vows and returned on the eve of the second day. After staying a short time with Mr. Corey, John Day and wife went to his place, in section one (1) lot twenty-five (25), near L. D. King's. Mrs. Day [mother to Sylvester Day, now dead] died in the Fall of 1820, and was buried on her father's farm, being the first buried in our cemetery, but the exact spot is not known. John Day afterwards married Amanda Carman, and he was the father of fourteen children, eleven of whom are now living.

John, the oldest son, married Alzina Day, daughter of widow Day of Clarksfield for his first wife, by whom he had two children, both now dead; and for his second wife Mary McConnell, daughter of James McConnell, of Rochester, now living near Coldwater, Michigan. Hannah, the second daughter, married Daniel Higgins, of New London, who is reported as a "wild man" among the "Mormon Sisters." It is said of Higgins that he married Hannah to prevent John Webber from having her; also, at a house-raising for Simeon Munson, he was urgently dunned by Munson for a sum due, acknowledged the debt, and promised to pay as soon as he could, but at the raising a log got the advantage of the men, slipped and killed Munson. This was in the Fall of 1828. Thereafter, when suit was brought to recover of Higgins, oath was made of payment, which produced such great indignation that some one commenced a suit for perjury; Higgins suddenly became very pious and the prosecution was finally discontinued. The narrator says "at times Higgins was a devoted Baptist, a Methodist, and, among the Mormons, one of the most useful of the "Latter Day Saints."

This family also went to Michigan. Phebe married Ansel Barber, Benjamin, Martha Ann, daughter of Simeon Munson, and both live near Coldwater.

Elizabeth, who was born in New London, married Ransom McClave, son of James McClave, at whose house in Michigan old Mr. James McClave died in 1867.

Wanton, also born in New London, married Miss Barber, and lives in Michigan.

As Pioneers the Corey family were kind, obliging and useful.

EZEKIEL SAMPSON.

The second family that settled in the village was Ezekiel Sampson and Polly, his wife, daughter of Joseph Merrifield. Wm. Merrifield came to the third section at the same time. They left Brighton, New York, in November, and arrived in New London sometime in Decembea, 1816. Ezekiel Sampson settled on Lot 8, Sec. 4, on which most of the west part of the village is built, and he put up the second log cabin on what is now L. W. Breck's garden. He remained on this lot some five years, and sold to Peter Kinsley and J. S. Merrifield, went to Elyria, remained a few years, and returned to this place, raised a family, and in 1835 went to Fulton county, Illinois, laid out the village of Enterprise, did business successfully for some five years, failed, and went to Iowa in company with Thos. Hendryx. Thus, with pioneer energy, did Ezekiel Sampson cross the "father of waters," wend his way 50 miles on the trackless prairies west of Burlington, and in 1839 again began a western home. At one time we see him prosperous in business, at another sinking beneath the wave of adversity, to rise still more gloriously. In New London he helped to organize the Baptist Church, but was afterwards a Disciple, and died in 1845. His widow, now 81 years of age, lives in Sigourney, Keokuk county, Iowa. The names of their children are Washington, Polly, Lewis and Julia. The youngest son is now Judge of Keokuk county.

DEACON ISAAC SAMPSON,

Father to Ezekiel, whom we have just noticed, wife, and the following named children; Sally, Isaac, John, Roxey and Marium, came to the township in August 1817, and for a few years lived in the second section. In 1822 he and his family came and settled on the south half of Lot 3, Sec. 4. He remained on this for a few years, and erected the sixth log cabin [now in the street just south of Frank Miller's], made quite an improvement, clearing some fifteen acres, and sold to A. Dayton Hendryx. He was by trade a stone cutter, making grind stones and mill stones out of sand stones and hard heads, and was a mason. The old Deacon was a very good christian man. In 1835 he went with his son Ezekiel to Illinois. Among the monuments of his labor is the burning of the brick and building of Deacon Henry Sackett's house, in Ruggles township, in the year 1834. The children married as follows: Sally married Eno Smith, of Florence, in January, 1819, and lived and prospered in that vicinity; Isaac married Patty Hendryx, daughter of old Anthony, about 1823, and in after years went with the Mormons; Roxey married Archibald Bates about 1826; John married Miss Townsend, and went to Illinois at the Nauvoo Mormon emigration; Marium, at the age of thirteen years, married Gammalia Townsend and went to Indiana with Truman and Arch. Bates in 1832. Deacon Isaac Sampson died in Fulton county, Illinois, in 1838.

JOSEPH MERRIFIELD'S FAMILY.

This family forms one of the most important accessions as pioneers to this part of the fourth section. They were numerous, and by their married connections still more so; three of the children were married in Brighton, New York, prior to coming to New London, viz: Polly to Ezekiel

Sampson, Betsey to Nathan Hoyt, and William to ———; the names of the other children were Lydia, (now Widow Kingsley) James O., Joseph Seymour and Lewis.

But to return and speak more particularly of "Father" Joseph and his wife.

Joseph was born in Hiram, Massachusetts, in the year 1767, Dec. 6th, and his wife, Hannah Esty, was born at Plymouth, Massachusetts, July 15, 1769; were married in Liecester, Addison county, Vermont, in 1788, where they continued to reside till 1810, when they with all their children moved to Central New York, stopping two years in Seneca county, but two years later settled in Brighton, and remained five years. In July of this year Joseph, in company with his son-in-law, Nathan Hoyt, came to the fourth section and erected the third log cabin on lot 2, where Benjamin Mead's house is.

[This lot had been previously entered by Thomas Hendryx, but no improvements had been made.]

Having thus secured a place for their families, they sent for them, and they arrived December 22, 1817.

The First School House in what is now the Village.

In the Fall of 1818 the few inhabitants then here banded together, old and young, and put up a log building for a school house, employed Peter Kingsley as teacher, who had some eighteen or twenty pupils, mostly young men and women. This was the first public house in the village, and fifth building. It stood just north of a small stream, and a little south of where Levi Merrifield now lives. In this house was organized the first Baptist Church, as early as 1818, and Elder French was their first minister. Among the first members were Joseph Merrifield and wife, Deacon Isaac Sampson and wife, John Corey and wife, Ezekiel Sampson and wife, Thomas and John Hendryx and wives, Wm. Merrifield and wife, Richard Bailey and wife, and several of the younger members of the above families, making in all about twenty or twenty-five members. This church has always kept its organization, though for much of the time it was not able to pay any regular preacher. In 1829 many of the members went over to the Disciple Church, and still more from 1831 to 1834 went with the Latter Day Saints, or Mormons.

Old Mr. Merrifield never took any deed for Lot 2, but in the year 1835 it was deeded to James O., his son, the north half, who had always been the real owner from the time Thos. Hendryx sold out his entrance to it. He and his wife continued to live with James O. till their death. Mrs. M. died Aug. 16th, 1851, and Mr. M. Feb. 27th, 1852.

He was a man of great industry, perseverance and ingenuity. In Vermont he worked in leather, making shoes and harnesses; in Brighton in wood, making sleighs, sleds, wooden ploughs, and teaching church music; in New London during summers, on the farm, and winters he manufactured wooden plows, spinning wheels, sleighs, bedsteads, stands and Pioneer cabinet ware, taught singing-school evenings, and made himself generally useful. This part of the Firelands was called for many years the Merrifield Settlement. He outlived his wife only six months, having lived happily togeth er more than sixty-three years.

FRANCIS KEYES AND FAMILY.

Mr. Keyes, wife and four children, from Vermillion, (though formerly from Massachusetts) came to New London in Nov. 1818, and settled on lot 6, section 4. He erected the fourth log cabin, just south of the south-west corner of John King's orchard. This orchard he set out in 1820, it being the second put out in

the village (John Corey having put out the first.) In May, 1819, Mrs. Keyes died of consumption, and was buried just west of the house, near the Clarksfield highway. There is nothing to mark the exact spot where sleeps the first white adult person of the township! In July of the same year Mr. Keyes married Mrs. Elizabeth Scribner for his second wife, and they remained on this place till 1821, and sold the improvements to J. O. Merrifield and Peter Kinsley, and went to the east portion of Fitchville township. Ursula, the eldest daughter, married J. O. Merrifield.

Mary Keyes married Lewis Merrifield in July, 1828, and is now living in Lagrange, Indiana. The two boys Perry and Harrison, married sisters by the name of Sherrick. Francis Keyes and wife, and the two boys and their wives, in 1834 went with the Latter Day Saints to the Far West, where they hoped to be permitted to enjoy unmolested that freedom in Mormon religion dearer to them than all the wealth and ostentation of eastern churches and society. With the Saints we lose them.

ABRAM DAYTON HENDRYX.

Abram Dayton Hendryx, wife and family came to New London in 1817, and lived, as the old people inform me, "all over." Sometimes on lot 3, then on lot 9, and then for a few years in Sullivan, and back again to New London. He was the father of the following named children: John, who married Eunice, daughter of Dr. Samuel Day; Sophia, who married John Town, and went to Michigan; George, who married Perwilla Stevens, in Ruggles, from Knox county; Sally had John Fisher for her first husband, and Mr. Cummings for her second. She is now a widow, living in the village. Anna, the oldest daughter, married Benj. DeWitt, of Plymouth. He put up the seventh log cabin, a little north of where W. C. Otis now lives. Anna and all the children are dead, and he is at Lagonier, Indiana. As illustrative of the extreme scarcity of money among the Pioneers at this period of matrimony, the following is related:

"DeWitt could get no money for his work wherewith to pay Squire Case for marrying them. Simpson, his debtor, negotiated with the justice to take a *nice young dog*. The arrangement was perfected, and the golden hymenial knot was adjusted in accordance therewith. In after years, when the little *caninè* had become "Old Bose," he was a very valuable member of the Case family, respected by the entire neighborhood as a faithful sentinel. and at a very old age died deeply regretted.

THE BATES FAMILY.

Truman Bates and wife, his mother, brother Archibald and sister Huldah, came from Pompey, New York, January 28, 1821, and settled in the south-west part of the 4th section, where Mr. Stoner now lives. Truman was by trade a carpenter, a sort of "universal log cabin builder," and he put up so many houses and lived in so many different places that it would be tedious to follow the peregrinator.

He rendered good service to the newly married people by putting up cabins; at first a Baptist and in a few years after a Mormon. His wife, Betsey, daughter of old Mr. Bowman, of whom it is as well for the historian to be nearly silent, at one time left Truman and went to New York, expecting a very prominent man from New London to come for her, but he came not, and Truman with the children went to the West. Both soon repented, returned, remained till 1832, then went to Indiana, where he did "work for the State."

Huldah Bates, born May 27, 1804,

married Joseph Seymour Merrifield March 28, 1822, and is now a highly respected widow lady living in the village.

Archibald Bates married Roxey Sampson, and in —— went to Indiana.

JOHN BATES,

An older brother, came to Ohio in 1822, and is reputed as a very good man, energetic and public spirited, and both he and his wife died about the same time in the Fall of 1830, and they and two children were buried in the cemetery enclosed by an old picket railing, within which has grown a large elm tree.

To him and some forgotten stranger of the East New London was indebted for the erection of an immense ox or horse mill on the north part of lot 4, fourth section, in the year 1830; he did not live to complete the undertaking.

Henry Bates, an English deserter, who in company with Peter Kinsley crossed the Niagara river under the fire of the British army, in 1815, came to New London in 1818, did valuable service as an honest, hard laborer, and his name is often mentioned to this day with great respect.

PETER KINSLEY.

The name of this individual is intimately connected with what is properly the village more than any previously mentioned; but space obliges us to say little of his life and doings. He was born in the city of Dublin, Ireland, July 12th, 1797. Of his youthful days we only know he was distinguished as an apt scholar, of great physical prowess and heroic courage, was a soldier in the British Army, and for his love of Liberty, under the fire of the army, he, with Henry Bates, crossed the Niagara river "without leave," and came to the State of New York in 1815. In 1817 he came to Florence, Ohio, and that winter taught school, and the next summer came to New London and instructed the first school in what is now the village, during the winters of 1818 and 1819. While engaged in this school, Miss Lydia Merrifield, one of his pupils, so completely captivated him by her love, beauty and charms, that they voluntarily surrendered themselves, and were immolated on Hymen's Altar March 12, 1820. Soon after he and J. O. Merrifield bought the Francis Keyes farm and lived on it for about two years, when he sold his portion and purchased the north part of lot eight of Ezekiel Sampson, on which all the business portion of the village is now built.

It was about this time, 1822 or 1823, that he erected his log house just north of where the Asher House is now situated. Year after year he added addition to addition, and this twice doubled log house became the *first* Hotel, the *first* Store, the *first* Justice's office and some say the *first* Post-office. From 1825 to 1837 New London was known as "Kinsley's Corners." In 1834 he erected the first frame buiding in the village, a horse-barn, where L. Kilburn's store now stands. This was afterwards moved and is now owned by R. C. & A. A. Powers and occupied as a barber-shop and shoe-store.

In 1831 Mr. Kinsley became a partner with J. S. Merrifield in buying and finishing the John Bate's horse-mill. The mill was so far completed as to do some corn grinding —the bolting was done by a hand-sieve—prior to the moving of it into the village, which took place in 1833. Dea. Harvey Sackett, of Ruggles, "bossed" the moving of this immense concern. About fifty yoke of oxen were employed several days, breaking a ton of chains, and most of the people in four townships took part, thus making it one of the most remarkable events to the Pioneers. A portion of the upper part was

done off into a store-room, where for a short time the firm sold goods. But as merchants, Kinsley & Merrifield, in 1834, nearly failed. Kinsley returned to his "Travelers' Home," and Merrifield allowed the farmers to use the old mill. In the year 1835 Kinsley erected a small frame store, (the first in the place) on the corner where J. Middleswarth's brick store is, and it was the only store on the "Corners" for several years, and, in a greatly enlarged form, is now in existence, owned by A. A. Powers and occupied by A. G. Ells for a grocery store. The last enterprise that occupied his energy was the building of the south part of the Asher House in 1837, but he did not live to complete it. He died of enlarged and indurated liver, on the 15th day of December, 1837. His *widow is now living in the village with her daughter, Mrs. Mary Belding. Charles S. Kinsley, of Norwalk, is their youngest son, and Mrs. Dr. Van Vechten the youngest daughter, all of whom are very highly respected.

DR. RICHARD P. CHRISTOPHER.

The first Physician of the place is entitled to a passing notice.

He came to Huron in 1816, and assisted Judge Jabez Wright in keeping the first Post-office on the Firelands. He married a Miss Chapman, and after staying at the Beattie place, near the old stone house, seven miles this side of Sandusky City, for several years, came, in 1825 to New London. Both he and his wife were teachers of both day and Sabbath schools.

As an educated man, and successful physician, he rendered much benefit to Society. In stature he was diminutive, left handed and decrepid. Dr. Christopher was a ripe scholar and an honest, Christian gentleman. He died in 1829 and sleeps in our burying ground with no monument or insignia to mark the spot of one who was faithful to suffering humanity. Such, alas, I am sorry to say, is too often the negligence of the living to those who in life were benefactors.

JOSEPH SEYMOUR MERRIFIELD.

J. S., son of old Mr. Joseph Merrifield, though he did not die during the First Period, is nevertheless regarded as a proper one to be noticed in this connection.

He was born August 13, 1802, in Licester, Addison County, Vermont, and came with his father's family to New London, December 22, 1817.

He worked with his father in felling the heavy forest, on the farm, in the shop, and made himself familiar with nearly all of his parent's various trades, Church music not excepted. At the age of eighteen he married Huldah Bates, March 28, 1821, erected a hewed log cabin, with greased paper for windows, just west of his father's, where he resided for a very short period when he took his log cabin and wife and moved on the south half of lot No. 2, now owned by Jesse Perkins. In 1821, having sold his improvements to Mr. Loveland, he went into copartnership with Peter Kinsley in the mill and store business as merchants. They failed in about three years, Joseph now lived on the south part of lot No. 8.

By great diligence in business of all kinds, in the mill, on the farm and at carpertering, with an economy seldom practiced he began to make and accumulate property. In 1836 he erected the second frame house in the village, the one where Dr. McClellan now resides. J. O. Merrifield put up the first in 1835.

During the years 1838–9 Ohio was visited by extensive and very severe drouths. That of '38 was without parallel in the memory of the oldest inhabitant. No rain fell from the 1st of June till the following Febru-

* Died November 20th, 1869.

ary, and when the first snow came it fell in many inches of dust; farmers had great difficulty to find water for their stock; the streams nearly all became dry; steam mills could not, in many instances in this part of the country, find water to run their engines. The Ohio River is said to have been almost dried up and the merchants of Cincinnati sent teams and wagons to Eastern cities for goods. Wheat was worth $1 75 per bushel, but there were only a few mills that could convert it into flour.

The old Ox or Horse Mill now demonstrated the sagacity of its founder, and Mr. Merrifield, its owner, by allowing the farmers to run it day and night (Sundays not excepted) reaped a very handsome income from the "tollings" and "got nearly out of debt." In 1840 modern improvements out-stripped the Horse Mill, and it was sold to Stephen Kilburn for a Chair Factory, where many of the best "wooden seated chairs" of Northern Ohio were made.

Mr. Merrifield lived to pass through the 1st and 2d periods of the history of our village and well into the 3d. He died October 23, 1861, from the effects of a wound in his knee from a knife while pruning the hoofs of diseased sheep.

In life he was noted for his enthusiastic love of church music, and he and his family, for several years, did more to keep up the Baptist Choir than any other families of the church or place. He was a great lover of correct deportment in youths when at any public meetings, and any noisy boys or girls in church gave him peculiar pain.

By persevering industry and noted frugality he succeeded in amassing as fine a property as any of the Pioneers of the village. At one time during the Mormon excitement it was thought by many of his friends he stood in great danger of being swallowed up and wrecked by female love and charms! Yet by his determined firmness, and Christian principles, and the Grace of God, he was saved to be in his riper years one of the staunchest pillars of the Baptist Church, and died highly respected and deeply regretted by his numerous friends. If Mr. Merrifield had peculiarities of habits by some regarded as small faults, he also had some of those nobler characteristics, which, if the living will emulate, will redound to them in after life as honorable qualities of manhood. His widow and several of his children, all highly respected are now living among us.

CONCLUSION.

Fellow-citizens, with a few reflections we will here close the 1st period of the history of our village.

"The log cabin period" closes about 1838 or 1839 and with it closes the pioneer days of our village, which up to this time had been a poor destitute "log-cabin-four-corners." We leave it and the inhabitants to the stern fate of history. That the first settlers passed through many wants, trials, destitutions, without money, and almost without even a hope of ever having a good title to the land on which so much toil had been expended, and are still living and are with us to-day on this occasion, monuments of a past generation, is to us younger men almost a wonder. We are admonished not to murmur at our "hard times," our "hard work," our "bad roads" and light trials, but with cheerful hearts and bright glorious hopes, bravely, with true courage, face our many duties and prove ourselves worthy descendants of an honest, laboring ancestry, that of us it may be said, when life's fitful fever is over, "They did endeavor faithfully to discharge the duties of their day."

GOLDEN WEDDINGS AMONG THE PIONEERS.

PIONEER GOLDEN WEDDING.

Reminiscences of Early Times in Erie County.

On the 10th of October, at the residence of Daniel Chandler, Esq., Birmingham, Erie county, Ohio, occurred one of those happy reunions, known as a golden wedding, on the 50th anniversary of the marriage of D. Chandler to his wife, Sally Summers. The company was composed of the ancient bridegroom and bride, her sister, brother and half-brother, and their wives, and the sons and daughters of the aged couple—except one daughter absent—some eighteen or twenty grand-children and one great-grand-daughter, with the sons and daughters-in-law, which well filled the spacious family mansion. A richly engraved gold-headed cane and spectacles were presented to him, and several rich and tasty articles of dress to the bride by their children present, with their affectionate regards, which were received with much emotion. After a season of kind greetings and delightful social enjoyment a bountiful repast was served up, and two tables, extending the whole length of the ample dining-room, were crowded with guests. After paying due respect to the large store of excellent viands, the company retired to the parlor, and after a season of musical enjoyment (the family has several music masters in it) Benj. Summers, the bride's brother, was called out and remarked in substance:

"That a golden wedding was a remarkable epoch in the history of any family. It has become a custom, and a commendable one, too, to celebrate such events in the way of a family re-union. In our journeys we note the mile stones by the way, the rivers we pass, the cities we visit, and especially the big city. This is the great epoch of your married life. It will not occur again. Considerably over three score years and ten have bleached your head, dear brother, to whitest snow. Nay, we who compose this happy reunion will never meet again at all on earth, much less at the end of another fifty years. Let us retrospect for a few moments: I remember well that pioneer wedding, the first in our settlement. The "sparking" room (for where there is a will there is a way) was a corner partitioned off from the only room in the cabin by a blanket hung on two or three chairs. There you whispered your loves and laid your plans for life. In that room fifty years ago today you plighted your faith to each other; in that room was partitioned off the bridal couch, with curtains, and in that room was spread the wedding feast, sweetened with a plentiful supply of delicate honey taken from a tree in the woods by my hands the day before. Such was the way such things were done in Pioneer days, my young relatives. You plighted your faith to each other then, and now, at the end of half

a century, these broad fields of well tilled land, this fine old family mansion, well filled with a healthy, intelligent and moral posterity testify that God's blessing has been on you and yours. In health, in a ripe old age, with mental powers undimmed, you have the rewards promised to the diligent—riches in an abundance of worldly gear and honors—for a numerous and happy posterity rise up and call you blessed. Now you behold a well cultivated country. Then it was mostly a hidcous wilderness.

"Now we have the sweetest music the violin and melodeon can yield. Then our serenades were from screeching owls and howling wolves, an occasionally the whooping red men.

"In working out this mighty change you have done your full share of labor. To clear off the heavy forest, pay for the soil, erect buildings and feed and clothe a rising family, required untiring industry and rigid economy—but you were equal to the task. Here are four or five well dressed fine looking matronly ladies of whom it would puzzle a stranger to say which is the elder, that address you by the endearing title, father and mother. They came fast and the boys and girls kept coming right along, a baker's dozen of them, ten of whom still survive. Thirteen hungry mouths to feed and bodies to clothe and immortal intellects to be educated, you were poor and yet rich in strong hands and wills to work, and you did it, and did it well. To be sure these now fine ladies rolled about amongst the brush and log heaps and romped away their childood and youth; and were inducted into the mysteries of Webster and Murray, and Daboll, in homespun woolens and tow linen frocks which this aged mother carded, spun and wove, and cut out and made up with her own hands—it was done, and well done; and you do well my dear nieces to honor her for it. Under such circumstances they cleared up and paid for a quarter section and then laid in for more, and I believe I am correct in asserting that at the end of fifteen or twenty years after paying out every dollar they could spare and more than the original price of the land, they found taxes, and compound interest had taken it nearly all and they still owed the price of the land. But times became better; the children began to help, and you are now in the enjoyment of a competence; your last days are your best; and you have only patiently and joyfully to wait the welcome messenger to usher you into the blest abode so long sought and prayed for.

"Another noteworthy circumstace connected with the occasion is this, that four out of the five young people composing our family circle at that wedding are here present, and the fifth is in the vicinity and could be here if he chose. Will any one tell us how many chances there were against such an event?"

The aged patriarch then expressed his gratitude and gratification at thus meeting so many of his relations and posterity and urged them all, as we should never meet on earth again, to try by all means to meet in Heaven, and closed with a fervent and appropriate prayer, after which Captain George W., their youngest son, who is a superior violinist and had cheered the filthy rebel prisons of the South for nearly two years with his music (being taken prisoner at Gettysburg) also entertained the company very delightfully, accompanied by a grand-daughter, Mrs. S. E. Jefferson, on a melodeon; and at an early hour the company retired much gratified with the occasion.

Florence, October 12th, 1868.

—[Sandusky Daily Register, Oct. 16, 1868.

GOLDEN WEDDING

OF

MR. AND MRS. WALTER BETTS.

Mr. and Mrs. Walter Betts, both of Vermillion, celebrated the fiftieth anniversary of their married life on the 6th inst, at the residence of Mr. and Mrs. Denman, their granddaughter. Much credit is due the grand-children, though few in number, for planning and executing this delightful feast, especially Mr. and Mrs. Denman, on whom rested the largest share of the burden. May they live to enjoy a like reward. The friends of the aged couple gathered on the occasion were mostly of the pioneer band whose fading numbers tell but too truly that they are passing away. Among them we noticed Mr. Philo Wells and lady, Mr. Washburn and lady, Judge Summers and lady, Mr. Beardsley and lady, also from Brownhelm, Esq. Blodgett and lady and George Wells and lady, and other, but more recent settlers. While the Martha's were making ready for the feast, the older people were busy relating incidents of pioneer life and comparing notes of then and now. "Time had been running them on a wild race in the world's progress, since they started a great age, much wisdom, more folly, slavery dead, freedom on the wing, sudden wealth, its grand employment. Oh, what an age, that now we live in, and where will the end be." Concluding with, "Well, I don't know, almost afraid we may not find ourselves mortals." The announcement that the feast is ready put an end to these dreamy communings. When eating and drinking are to be done, they find themselves quite as ready as any to do justice at a well spread board; a convincing proof of their mortality. The old and young enjoy it alike, after which they repair to the parlor for a more public demonstration. After the song, "When you and I were young, Maggie," which was quite affecting, Judge Summers was called on for remarks. He said that Mr. and Mrs. Betts might congratulate themselves that, under the kind hand of an ever watchful Providence, they were spared to see this day, a privilege granted to but few. They had this honor, too, at this golden feast, of a genuine Buckeye marriage. Most of those of fifty yearsago, as a minister was a scarce commodity in those early days, were of an Eastern stamp. However, a justice from Berlin had the honor of this service for our friends, and Mr. Walter Betts and Miss Susan Ferman, of Florence, Ohio, began their new life February 7th, 1818. The music on that occasion was not like that we hear tonight, full of the harmony of sweet voices. It had a wolfish tone, not as delightful as it was exciting to our ears. Their outfit was rather of the necessary than the showy. The wood and iron rather than the silver and gold; but that of which they might well be proud, in reviewing their long but humble life, was an untarnished name for honor and integrity. This was a blessing that had its own reward. Their posterity would hold such facts as of richer worth than the golden mementoes they had to offer. The speaker, in behalf of their only daughter and her children, presented Mr. Betts with a gold-headed cane and Mrs. Betts a pair of gold spectacles; also a gold coin from Mr. Runnels. Other gifts, though not golden, will be remembered as precious from other friends, with wishes from all that they might live many years to enjoy them. The setting sun bid the older ones to seek their homes, and the finishing strokes to be given with younger hands. Parting with the reflection that all who would win the golden prize must begin in season, fear God, walk humbly, live honestly, and take care of the house.

they live in. To such the prospects are encouraging. SPECTATOR.
—[Lorain Co. News, Feb. 17, 1869.

A PIONEER GOLDEN WEDDING IN PERKINS.

One of those pleasant reunions, the fiftieth anniversary of married life of an aged couple, Roger and Polly Fox, was celebrated at the old homestead, on Monday, November 29, 1869. The inclemency of the weather did not prevent a large gathering at the appointed time. The afternoon was more strictly devoted to a family reunion of children, grandchildren and near relatives. They have been blessed with seven children—four daughters and three sons. Two have died. There were present on this occasion three of the children, Amanda, Fidelia and Allen—two reside in distant States. The afternoon was pleasantly spent in talking over the incidents of their past lives as a family. Towards evening they all partook of a bountiful repast in the shape of an old-fashioned family supper, at which the venerable couple presided with grace and dignity. From the bridegroom of this occasion we elicit these interesting facts. Roger Fox was born in Glastenbury, Connecticut, in the year 1797—Polly Wetherby, his bride, was born in the year 1799, in the same town. They were married at a prayer-meeting November 29, 1819—Rev. Mr. Stockings, better known as "Priest Stockings," was the officiating clergyman. They came to Ohio in the fall of 1821, with four other families, settled in Perkins, and have always lived at this place. They are conversant with all the privations and hardships of those early pioneer times.

We now come to the

GOLDEN WEDDING.

Which occurred in the evening. At an early hour the house was flooded from garret to floor with as happy a company as ever gathered on this the, joyous of all occasions—a wedding. The pioneer element was well represented, and perhaps a dozen or more were present above the age of sixty, who had shared with the host and hostess "the sorrows and joys of many long years." After an hour or more spent in social conversation and mutual congratulations, Uncle Roger and Aunt Polly were introduced to those present in the garb of "ye olden times."

Rev. Elviro Parsons, in a humorous manner, proceeded in fun to perform the matrimonial service, whereupon the boy of 72 and the bride of 70 joined their right hands and repledged their love and fidelity to each other. Mr. P. then made a few remarks, alluding to the changes that have taken place in the mode of life and methods of doing work since the pioneer times. "Auld Lang Syne" was then sang with a gusto. A presentation of a gold coin was made to the bride from Mrs. I. W. Ransom. A purse of $10 was made up by those present, which was presented in their behalf by Mr. W. M. Hills. A pair of gold spectacles of beautiful finish was presented from those present by Fred. Turner, Esq. Numerous other presents were presented by those present which it would take too long to particularize. Bro. Persons, in behalf of the recipients, thanked those present for these beautiful expressions of kindness, and in closing paid a befitting tribute to the loved host and hostess. After adjusting the spectacles the "married folks" were requested to look through them at their friends, but tears of gratitude would not permit them to see. The refreshments were next in order—ample and good—in which the bride's cake and wedding cake showed conspicuously. After spending some time in singing some good old tunes, in which all engaged, all wended their way homeward, carrying a pleasant impression of the only golden wedding many of them ever attended. XXX.

MEMBERS OF THE FIRE LANDS HISTORICAL SOCIETY.

CONTINUED FROM VOLUME 9TH.

NAMES.	RESIDENCE.	WHERE AND WHEN BORN.	WHEN AND WHERE FIRST SETTLED ON FIRE LANDS.
Buell, Mason	La Salle, Ind.,	Manchester, Vt., 1808.	New Haven, 1828.
Bush, H. W.	Perkins,	Pittsfield, Mass., 1796.	Perkins, 1825.
Bush, Roxana	Perkins,	Lenox, Mass., 1796.	Perkins, 1825.
Bell, R. A.	Margaretta,	Richland Co., 1848.	Margaretta, 1857.
Bristol, Sarah G.	Sandusky,	Milan, 1831.	
Bunce, Mary	Wakeman,	Woodbury, Conn., 1800.	Wakeman, 1827.
Beardsley, Sarah	Vermillion,	New Jersey, 1808.	Vermillion, 1833.
Barker, John B.	Fairfield,	Washington Co., N. Y., 1811	Greenwich, 1818.
Barker, Polly	Fairfield,	Wayne Co., N. Y., 1819.	Fitchville, 1831.
Barnes, James	Ruggles,	Adams Co., 1817.	Huron Co., 1820.
Comstock, Philo	Norwalk,	New Canaan, Conn., 1809.	Norwalk, 1828.
Camp, Mrs. Lydia	Wakeman,	Rochester, Vt., 1806.	Wakeman, 1835.
Comstock, E. A.	Norwalk,	Norwalk, 1835.	
Caswell, Calvin	Margaretta,	Steuben Co., N. Y., 1819.	Margaretta, 1837.
Colt, R. E.	Sandusky,	Berkshire, Mass., 1802.	Huron, 1831.
Clemons, P. H.	Marblehead,	Sandusky, 1832.	
Clock, D. H.	Monroeville,	Monroeville, 1831.	
Carpenter, David	Greenwich,	New London, 1845.	
Case, Tracey	New London,	Ontario Co., N. Y., 1806.	Huron Co., 1815.
Chapman Amy	Greenwich,	Hartford, Conn., 1815.	Greenwich, 1816.
Dailey, Sarah H.	New London,	Westchester, Co., N. Y. 1820.	Florence, 1827.
Donaldson, L. P. B.	Ripley,	Ripley, 1836.	
Donaldson, J. H.	Ripley,	Mansfield, O., 1834.	
Dezo, Wm. H.	Groton,	Groton, 1841.	
Davis, Joshua B.	Sandusky,	Oswego, N. Y., 1841.	Sandusky, 1854.
Davis, J. S.	Monroeville,	Maryland, 1807.	Ridgefield, 1815.
Drake, F. H.	Monroeville,	Luzerne Co., Pa., 1815.	Ridgefield, 1838.
Dailey, James	New London,	Onondaga, N. Y., 1815.	Florence, 1832.
Everett, David	Huron,	New Jersey, 1798.	Huron, 1824.
Everett, Abigail	Huron,	New Jersey, 1804.	Huron, 1824.
Everett, I. D.	Sandusky,	Milan, 1830.	
Edgar, Daniel	Monroeville,	England, 1825.	Lyme, 1833.
Fleming, Thos.	Townsend,	Pittsburg, Pa., 1817.	Pipe Creek, 1826.
Fleming, H. R.	Townsend,	Huron Co., 1819.	
Follett, Oran	Sandusky,	Onondaga, N. Y.	Sandusky, 1834.
Foote, Kate	New London,	Ontario Co., N. Y., 1830.	New London, 1835.
Ferris, Philetus	Ruggles,	Yates Co., N. Y., 1817.	Ruggles, 1824.
Fancher, Y. S.	Greenwich,	Ulster Co., N. Y., 1809.	Greenwich, 1818.
Gillett, O. F.	Norwalk,	Sheffield Co., N. Y., 1824.	Milan, Aug., 1839.
Gillett, J. M.	Norwalk,	Sheffield, N. Y., 1826.	Milan, 1839.
Gwinn, C. W.	Milan,	New York, 1815.	Townsend, 1829.
Gwinn, Lydia	Milan,	Milan, 1821.	
Gregg, Lucretia	Sandusky,	New York, 1805.	Norwalk, 1816.
Green, Elias	Clarksfield,	Livingston Co., N. Y., 1820.	Milan, 1832.
Hadley, C.	Sandusky,	Goffstown, N. H., 1804.	Sandusky, 1834.
Hewson, L. W.	Sandusky,	Charleston, Va., 1840.	Sandusky, 1856.
Halladay, E. P.	Havana,	Greenfield, 1822.	
Hunt, Almon	Reed, Sen. Co.,	Reedsboro, Vt., 1808.	Venice, July 4, 1816.
Hunt, Normal	Lyme,	Niagara, Co., N. Y., 1815.	Venice, July 4, 1816.
Hildreth, T. F.	Norwalk,	Ulyses, N. Y., 1826.	Fairfield, Sept., 1833.
Hubbell, J. C.	Ridgefield,	Charlotte, Vt., 1795.	Ridgefield, Oct. 13, 1815.

NAMES	RESIDENCE.	WHERE AND WHEN BORN.	WHEN AND WHERE FIRST SETTLED ON FIRE LANDS
Hawes, L. R.	Sandusky,	Barr, Mass., 1848.	
Hull, Sarah L.	Cincinnati,	Rome, N. Y., 1808.	Sandusky, 1844.
Hull, Pruella F.	Cincinnati,	Sandusky, 1850.	
Johnson, Eliza L.	Fitchville,	New London, 1825.	
Jewett, Eliz'b'th R	Sandusky,	Middletown, Conn., 1816.	Milan, 1826.
Jewett, E. R.	Sandusky,	Middletown, Conn., 1811.	Sandusky, 1836.
Jennings, R. J.	Sandusky,	Fairfield Co., Conn , 1802.	Sandusky, 1827.
Jennings, L.	Sandusky,	Canada, 1812.	Sandusky, 1827.
Jenney, A. D.	Greenwich,	New Bedford, Mass., 1813.	Greenwich, 1823.
Jenney, Benj.	Greenwich,	New Bedford, Mass., 1808.	Greenwich, 1823.
King, Julia Ann	New London,	New York, 1817.	Clarksfield, 1830.
King, Mary Ann	New London,	Delaware, O., 1823.	New London, 1853.
Kester, Dr. H.	New London,	Sussex Co., N. J , 1807.	Bronson, 1832.
Kittredge, W. F.	Norwalk,	Pittsfield, Mass., 1805	Norwalk, 1825.
Kellogg, Horace	Norwalk,	Sandusky, 1827.	
Kennan, C. L.	Norwalk,	Norwalk, 1847.	
Kenney, O. V.	Sandusky,	Sandusky, Jan. 29, 1819.	
Knapp, John	New London,	Clarksfield, 1836.	
Latham, W. L.	Monroeville,	Tallmadge, O., 1819.	Lyme, 1820
Lindsley, Allen	Monroeville,	Columbia Co., N. Y., 1805.	Ridgefield, 1826.
Latham, L. H.	Sandusky,	Fairfield, Me., 1829.	Sandusky, 1859.
Lewis, L. H.	Sandusky,	Lewiston, N. Y., 1820.	Sandusky, 1856.
Lyon, A. J.	Sandusky,	Knox Co., 1828.	
Lockwood, J. C.	Milan,	Norwalk, Conn., 1814.	Milan, Oct., 1819.
Lockwood, L. C.	Milan,	Rutland, N. Y., 1815.	Milan, Oct., 1819.
Lockwood, Jane	Milan,	Goshen, Conn., 1812.	Milan, 1835.
Lawrence, Eb'n'zr	Norwalk,	Vermont, 1808.	Norwich, Feb. 10, 1817.
Lawrence, Cl'rnda	Norwalk,	Springfield, O., 1821.	New Haven, O., 1825.
Lord, Alfred	Groton,	Erie Co., O., 1838.	
Lewis, Ann	Sandusky,	New Jersey, 1817.	Milan.
Lyon, Nathaniel	Ruggles,	Litchfield Co. Conn., 1803	Ruggles. 1841.
Marshall, J. E.	Sandusky,	England, 1808.	Sandusky, 1860.
Marshall, O. A.	Sandusky,	N. Adams, Mass., 1812.	Sandusky, 1860.
Muenscher, C. H.	Sandusky,	Gambier, O., 1837.	Sandusky, 1857.
Marsh, A. R.	Monroeville,	Rahway, N. J., 1800.	Norwalk, 1834.
Mulock, C.	Monroeville,	Orange Co., N. Y., 1814.	Greenfield, 1844.
Miles, Daniel	Hartland,	Greenwich, Ct., 1799.	Norwalk, 1839.
Miner, Harriet	New London,	Onondaga Co., N. Y., 1831.	New London, 1838.
Merry, E.	Milan,	Milan, Jan. 15, 1820.	
McEwen, T. C.	Sandusky,	Bellefont, Pa., 1814.	Huron, 1835.
McFall, Mrs. C. S.	Sandusky,	Townsend, O., 1821.	
Maynard, A. W.	Ripley,	Greenwich, O., 1843.	
Manvel, D. H.	Norwalk,	Woodbury, Ct., 1812.	Wakeman, 1833.
McCormick, B. F.	Hartland,	Ovid, N. Y., 1820.	
Morgan, Thomas	Perkins,	England.	Lyme, 1830.
McFall, Wm. H.	Sandusky,	Northampton Co., Pa., 1815.	Milan, 1838.
Niles, Mrs. M. P.	Norwich,	Ticonderoga, N. Y., 1817.	Norwich, 1833.
Osborn, G. B.	Fitchville,	Wintham, N. Y.	Fitchville, 1831.
Osterhout John	Perkins,	Erie Co., N. Y.	Groton, 1834.
Osborn, Mrs. M. E.	Sandusky,	New Jersey, 1802.	Sandusky, 1835.
Post, Bushnell,	New London,	Richland Co., 1820.	Huron Co., 1821.
Patch, Geo. C.	Margaretta,	Conn., 1830.	Groton, 1833.
Prout, Geo. H.	Sandusky,	Bloomingville, 1842.	
Prout, Maud	Sandusky,	Sandusky, 1848.	
Pomeroy, F. W.	Sandusky,	Pompey, N. Y.	Norwalk, 1826.
Penfield, Amos	Sandusky,	Fairfield, Conn., 1797.	Ohio, 1827,
Prentiss, A. W.	Monroeville,	Peru, 1824.	
Prosser, Wm, S.	New London,	Yates Co., N. Y., 1819.	New London, 1831.

NAMES	RESIDENCE.	WHERE AND WHEN BORN.	WHEN AND WHERE FIRST SETTLED ON FIRE LANDS.
Rogers, Dr. Isaac	Oxford,	Conn., 1804.	Peru, 1846.
Rogers, L. L.	Oxford,	Vermont, 1820.	Oxford, 1865.
Ruggles, D. W.	Ridgefield,	Oxford, 1831.	
Rumsey, Adeline	New London,	Ontario Co., N. Y., 1829.	New London, 1837.
Sterling, J. H.	Bronson,	Wilton, Ct., 1808.	Ripley, 1837.
Stow, L. S.	Milan,	Windsor, N. Y., 1817.	Milan, 1838.
Sloane, Rush R.	Sandusky,	Sandusky, 1828.	
Sloane, Sallie M.	Sandusky,	Newburg, N. Y.	Sandusky, 1853.
Sloane, Thomas M.	Sandusky,	Sandusky, 1854.	
Sloane, Frank G.	Sandusky,	Sandusky, 1857.	
Stow, Mrs. L. S.	Milan,	Lyme, 1824.	
Scouton, Wm.	Monroeville,	Madison Co., N. Y., 1814.	Ridgefield, 1820.
Sackett, E. H.	Ruggles,	Tallmadge, O., 1822.	Ruggles, 1825.
Salisbury, F.	Greenwich,	Greenwich, 1822.	
Townsend, John	Fitchville,	New London, 1829.	
Tower, Reuben	Ste'son Co, Ill.	Mass., 1796.	Fitchville, 1816.
Tanner, Hiram	Rochester,	Cayuga Co., N. Y., 1802.	Norwalk, 1819.
Wilson, Mrs. A.	Wakeman,	Woodbury, Ct., 1800.	Wakeman, 1825.
Welch, Fanny	Townsend,	Barry, Vt., 1814.	Townsend, 1818.
Wilbur, Philander	Milan,	Leroy, N. Y., 1802.	Milan, 1827.
Wilbur, Susan A.	Milan,	Batavia, N. Y., 1804.	Townsend, 1812.
Wilcox, Timothy	York,	Bradford Co., Pa., 1815.	
West, T. D.	Sandusky,	Mass., 1820.	Sandusky, 1849.
West, W. T.	Sandusky,	Berkshire, Mass., 1815.	Sandusky, 1837.
Wheelock, L. P.	Sandusky,	Albion, N. Y., 1827.	Oberlin, 1847.
West, A. K.	Sandusky,		
Washburn, J. C.	Fitchville,	Ulster Co., N. Y., 1802.	Fitchville, 1822.
Wood, Jedediah	New London,	Putnam Co., N. Y.	New London, 1832.
Youngs, John	Sandusky,	Oswego, N. Y., 1814.	Danbury, 1816.
Youngs, Kate	Sandusky,	Sandusky, 1852.	

PIONEERS GONE.

INTRODUCTION.

At no time has the Angel Reaper made greater havoc in our ranks than since the issue of the last volume. One by one the early, tried and steadfast members of this Society have "rested from their labors" until the vacant places be more than they which are left.

The following notices, necessarily condensed and brief, utterly fail to do full justice to their many virtues. The history of their lives is written on every field, rehearsed in every social circle and indelibly stamped upon every community in the Fire-lands. Their work is done. Be it ours who remain yet a little longer to so treasure up and emulate their many worthy deeds, that those who come after "shall rise up and call them and us blessed!"

ELIJAH BEMISS,

Died at his residence, in Groton, Erie County, Ohio, October 15, 1869, in his 73d year. He was born at Worthington, Massachusetts, June 29th, 1797.

At the age of twelve, his residence was changed to Western New York. Here he was married in 1823, and in the same year he removed to Ohio, and fixed his home on the Fire-lands, on the spot where he ever after resided. Endowed with all the qualities requisite to the stern experiences and onerous responsibilities of pioneer life, he soon became a prominent man in his section, and exercised a wide influence in society. Distinguished for his genial disposition, kindness of heart, good sense, and sterling integrity, he had the confidence and love of all about him. For more than thirty-eight years, he was an active and leading member of the Lyme Presbyterian Church, and for many years a ruling elder therein. At the time of his decease, he was superintendent of the Sunday School in said church, which position he had held more than thirty years. The Sunday School was his favorite field of labor. And it is in a great degree owing to his influence and exertions that nine-tenths of the adults of the congregation near his home were gathered into its ranks. For two years he was president of the Huron County S. S. Association, and one year president of the Erie County Union. In these associations he took a deep interest, and no one contributed more to their success.

His social nature, wide acquaintance and public spirit induced him promptly to join and assist in sustaining The Fire Lands Historical Society. For a succession of years he was elected one of its vice-presidents. Ever cordial and cheerful in his manner, his presence was an essential element at our "Pioneer meetings." But we shall meet him at our gatherings here, no more.

"Father Bemiss" was a patriot and a Christian. He acted well his part. And, having done that which was given him to do, he has been bidden by The Master to "come up higher."

P. N. S.

GEORGE H. WOODRUFF.

The subject of this sketch was born in Chittenden County, in the State of Vermont, on the 18th day of August, 1795, and died June 2d,

1869, in Peru, Huron County, Ohio. His parents were poor, and his mother dying while he was an infant, he was placed under the care of his grandmother, whose limited means afforded him but a small chance for mental improvement. His "schooling" probably did not exceed one year in all. This, however, was so well improved that he became a remarkably good reader. Writing and arithmetic are the other two branches that comprized his scientific attainments at school. At the age of eight he removed to Saratoga County in the State of New York. In the year 1814 he enlisted as a soldier and served his term in a regiment of the New York State Militia. He witnessed the naval engagement on Lake Champlain, and participated in the battle of Plattsburgh. He could, and often did, up to the close of his life, relate all the features and incidents of those sanguinary engagements.

In 1816 he came to Ohio. He commenced life for himself that year in the township of Norwich, helping to build the first log cabin in the township, and being the first to commence a settlement in the place. It will be remembered that at that time, not only Norwich, but almost every other township in the county was innocent of white settlers. For a short time subsequent to this he worked for David Powers, of New Haven, where he became acquainted with, and married Hannah Burghart, who had recently left New England for the wilds of the West. He settled on Slate Run in the northern part of Norwich, where he remained for over forty years. He raised a family of eight cdildren; one died in infancy. The mother died in 1836. He married Mrs. Hoskins for his second wife, in 1845. She died about nine years afterward.

Father Woodruff was emphatically a pioneer, both by nature and necessity. He had a dauntless spirit, and a stubborn will. The love of adventure never left him. Those incidents in his early experience, we now call hardships, were not so regarded by him at the time, and he often regretted that the progress of the times was drifting him so far from the realities of pioneer life, and declared that he took more comfort in performing his journeying with his ox-team and cart or sled, in the olden time than at present, in rail-coaches. The story of fifty years ago has been told so often, that all of us can tell how he and his few neighbors then lived. A mill for grinding breadstuff, at Venice, twenty-five miles away. Wild game constituted their main supply of meat. No roads, no bridges, no schools, no churches, no bodies of organized men in any capacity was then within reach. Norwich was, at this time a favorite resort for Indians, who came and went in large parties on hunting expeditions. At times, the red man could have outvoted the whites five to one. A friendly intercourse was generally kept up between the rival parties for the pick of the game.

The writer of this sketch recollects an incident which came near disturbing the harmony between a camp of the red-skins and the subject of this article. The Indians were generally too indolent to do much hunting for game and resorted to strategy to obtain meat at times. One of their tricks was to call up a deer by imitating the bleating of a fawn. The mother is easily deceived in this respect, for she never allows the fawns to accompany her, but visits them, where she secretes them, at such times as she affords them their natural nourishment. Father Woodruff was out looking for cattle and heard this cry of apparent alarm, and being short of fresh meat, thought he would crawl up and shoot

the game in the thicket. He leveled his gun and moved cautiously till he saw some movement that made him think that a full grown deer was there; almost on the instant of firing on the object, an Indian raised his head to look at the situation. Calling to him to come out, he told the savage of his narrow escape. The old chap uttered a kind of satisfied grunt, and seemed fully compensated in the reflection that he was able to fool a white man as well as a deer. He was told, however, that if he caught him at that trick again he would shoot him if he *was* an Indian. At one time a young Indian wounded a deer and it came near where he was at work, and his dog caught it. When he had got it dressed, the young Indian came in sight, and saw what had been done, he turned and run back. Some time afterward an old Indian came to him in the woods and demanded pay for the deer, and gave him to understand by his motions, for neither could understand a word of the other's talk, that it was his boy's first deer, and intimated by the flourish of his tomahawk and knife that his scalp was the price of refusing to pay. I think the deer never was paid for, and I know his scalp was never disturbed. They were a little more successful with his family on another occasion. The parents left their three children, the oldest six years of age, in care of a young woman while they went to meeting one Sunday, some four miles away. The young lady had gone out for a short time when several red-skins came to the house, and learning the situation, demanded something to eat. The children had often heard that the best way to keep Indians away was to refuse them everything they asked for. This, however, did not work well, for they made motions with their knives, across their throats, and demanded something to eat, which meant to the little ones, bread to the scamps or cut throats to the children. Nothing but a complete depletion of the cupboard, and a slight scare of the children was the result of the visit. There was more apprehension from white out-laws, by the early settlers, I think, than from the Indians who visited this section. I think there is not an instance remembered of any serious outrage committed by these savages upon whites in the township. I now recollect one on the other side, had it been done by Indians would have been considered heinous. About the year 1828, there was a white man by the name of K.——, who spent much of his time in hunting and trapping, made his headquarters in the township. He had several dogs that he prized highly, though they were quite worthless even to himself. Wolves were very numerous, and destroyed nearly all the sheep in the neighborhood. Almost every family had one or more wolf-traps, and K.'s dogs prevented the capture of the wolves. The dogs' lives had been threatened by a good many. One morning Father W. went to his trap and found one of K.'s dogs in it with one leg broken. I was about eight years old, and advised shooting the dog. He said if K. found out he killed it he would take vengeance. I told him I would do it. He leveled the gun in range with the dog's head; I pulled the trigger. The dog disturbed no more traps. but K. missed his dog. He suspected the cause of his absence. After several weeks inquiry he narrowed the field of his conjecture to three individuals. One night one of the three had a valuable coverlet hanging on the line, cut to pieces and destroyed. About the same time the 2d one had a yard of green soft brick entirely ruined. Soon after father found one of his fine three-year old steers shot dead, in the woods.

He was particularly fond of hunting, and the great theme of conversation among acquaintances in an early day was hunting exploits. On one occasion he tells of shooting a deer down, and while attempting to cut his throat, the deer, which was only stunned, recovered his strength and in the struggle to get away, nearly divested the hunter of his pantaloons—quite an item in those times. For many years dressed deer skins formed an important item in the composition of the wardrobe of every well regulated family.

An early settler of that neighborhood who had a constitutional dislike for hard work or hard hunting, killed a deer that came into his field, and as his need for clothing was extreme he decided to take the offensive and kill another wherever found, to make up for the lack of material for a suit. After spending several days in fruitless effert, he was returning home one day in company with a neighbor, when they came across the carcass of a dead deer. Mr. C., on seeing it, jumped several feet from the ground, slapped his hands and exclaimed, "Thank God! fortune favors the brave. I shall have a new suit."

Father Woodruff, as already intimated, commenced life without means or assistance. He took up a hundred acres of land with the understanding that he could have all the time to pay for it he required by paying interest annually. The price of the land was two dollars per acre. He paid most of the interest by working out, upon the road, the taxes on non-residents' lands held in the township. The title to these lands were a long time in dispute, and greatly paralyzed the energies of the settlers. He kept at work, cleared up his farm, and after forty years of toil was able to say he had not labored in vain.

He was also a pioneer in the temperance movement. He joined the first society organized in the township, more than thirty-five years ago, and for many years later was one of the chief supporters of the lodge of the Sons of Temperance, and the Good Templars.

As early as 1830 he was converted to religion, under the preaching of the Rev. Arza Brown. He joined the church, became identified with all its interests, and lived for nearly forty years a zealous and worthy member and officer in the Methodist Episcopal Church.

He was from the start a Whig in politics, and then a Republican.

Few men of his intellectual acquirements had a better knowledge of political affairs in later years. This came of extensive reading and a deep interest that he felt in national matters. He had himself been a soldier. One of his sons died in the army in the Mexican war. One served a while in the Regular army, and two of them were engaged in suppressing the rebellion, and one grand-son died in hospital. The families of two sons-in-law suffered all the horrors of civil war in a border slave State. He had a wonderful memory in matters that deeply interested him.

The prominent features of his character were an inflexible will, great perseverence, impetuosity of feeling and sympathy, with an honest heart, and an undoubted trust in the gospel of the Son of God. He was one of the first to identify himself with the Pioneer movement, and took a deep interest in the proceedings of the Society, being for many years one of its vice-presidents. Unchilled by the cold and undaunted by storms he was always in his accustomed place at its meetings, and imparted much of life and vigor to its proceedings.

The last few years of his life was spent in much physical suffering,

caused by a cancer which terminated his life. He was completely ready in every respect, long before his hour arrived to depart, and when the invisible messenger came he never found a more willing heart to obey his solemn mandate. His funeral was attended, at the Methodist Episcopal Church at Peru, by a large concourse of friends and neighbors; the sermon being preached from the text, 1 Cor., 2d chap., 9th verse, by the Rev. J. F. Hildreth.

His remains now lie within a few rods of the spot where he struck the first blow in an unbroken wilderness more than fifty-three years ago, in a public burying ground that he had done more to establish than any one beneath its grassy turf. C. W.

MARTIN HESTER.

Among the aged veterans of the Firelands who during the past winter have given this world the parting hand, we record the name of Martin Hester, of Bronson, Huron county, and seldom does death commissioned from on high, gather a more golden sheaf for the garner above.

Of the good men and kind families who, amid the itinerant labors of the writer, welcomed him to their hospitable homes, none are remembered with more pleasure than Martin Hester.

He was a native of Greene county, Pennsylvania. He was born September 6, 1787, just after the close of the revolutionary struggle which gave birth to our republic; and the noble principles of co-equal rights and religious liberty on which it was founded, found an early welcome in his youthful breast, and, growing with his growth, were interwoven with the best feelings of his heart, and helped to form his political and religious character in after life.

At the age of twenty he came with his parents to Ohio and settled in Columbiana Co.; this was in 1807, when the Firelands, and indeed all Northwestern Ohio was a wilderness. Two years after he was married to Mary M. Stough, the daughter of a Lutheran clergyman. She was a woman of amiable qualities and sterling worth. She was richly endowed with those matronly virtues of industry, courage, patience and piety which distinguished many of the pioneer mothers of Ohio. She lived to share his toils and pleasures for more than fifty-three years, and left a name fragrant with precious memories. In 1813, amid the perils of the war, he moved to Orange township, Ashland county, and from thence, in 1827, to Bronson, Huron county. Here he resided over forty-two years, and closed his earthly life on the last day of January, 1870, being in his eighty-third year.

He possessed a well rounded and symmetrical character; he was no idler; his morning song was heard with the early notes of the robin and meadow lark, and his ax resounded in the forest often before the morning sun had gilded the tree tops. His industry, combined with skill, changed the wilderness into fruitful fields, and filled his hands with plenty. Taste combined with industry gave an air of attractiveness and beauty to his farm; his fields were well fenced, his barns commodious, and modeled for the comfort of his flocks and herds. His plain but large brick mansion occupied a commanding site, with ample lawn and tasteful shrubbery.

He was a man of thought and intelligence. His library, if not large, was well selected. Periodicals, religious, political and agricultural, were on his side-table, contributing to the intellectual and moral culture of his growing family. He was of a kind, genial and benevolent disposition, rich in good works, ready to distribute, willing to communicate, laying up a good foundation against

the time to come. He was given to hospitality, a large-heartedness opened his doors to the stranger and wayfarer. He welcomed to his house ministers of the gospel of all denominations, and treated them with cordial deference and respect for their Master's sake. Among the early itinerants of the M. E. Church whom he cordially entertained were Adam Poe, Edward Thomson, and many others who have passed to their rest. He was never happier than when on some quarterly meeting occasion his house was well filled with a score or two of Christian friends for entertainment, and the writer will never forget the pleasant hours which on such occasions he has spent in his hospitable mansion. He was patriotic; the war found him in old age, yet he took a deep interest in the terrible struggle, and was one of those who thought that if we came out of the strife with but the blue heavens over our heads and the green earth under our feet, a united people to begin the world anew, we might truly thank God and take courage.

He took a very deep interest in the Firelands Pioneer Association; attended its meetings, and read with interest its publications. His religious principles were thoroughly evangelical, and his faith in divine revelation strong and unwavering. He was not a man given to change, and totally unlike those who seem to be ever on the wing for discovery. His settled convictions gave a uniformity as well as vitality to his religious life. For over forty-seven years he was a devoted member of the Methodist Episcopal Church, but although strongly attached to his own people, bigotry found no place either in his creed or his heart. His piety was progressive.

As age released him to a great extent from worldly toil and care, his interest in religion deepened, he read with deep delight of the onward triumphs of Christianity in pagan lands, and cheerfully contributed to the cause of missions, and indeed to all the benevolent enterprises of the church.

His Christian pathway shone brighter and brighter to a cloudless noon. His tenderness and affection as a husband, his care and kindness as a father, and his courteous and friendly disposition as a neighbor were seldom surpassed.

He lived to see his descendants quite numerous, but the longest journey has its end. A sudden stroke of paralysis was the signal that his work was done, and after the brief interval of forty-eight hours, his sun of life set undimmed by a single cloud.

His funeral was attended by a large concourse of sympathizing friends and neighbors, in the new and neat M. E. Church at Peru, in the erection of which he had taken great interest, and where he had during the last four weeks of his life by day and night enjoyed with great delight the duties and privileges of worshiping with the people of God; and to whom was preached a very able and appropriate sermon by the Rev. W. M. Conant, of Fairfield Circuit, from the text: "Let me die the death of the righteous, and let my last end be like his."

L. B. GURLEY.

GIDEON WAUGH.

Gideon Waugh was born in Litchfield, Litchfield county, Connecticut, Sept. 2, 1797. His father's family removed with him in his infancy to Camden, Oneida county, New York. At the age of twelve years he was left an orphan, being deprived by death of both parents in the short space of two weeks.

By this event, being thrown almost wholly upon his own exertions for support, there was early devel-

oped in his character that self reliance and unflagging industry that characterized his after life os a successful Pioneer.

He served his country as a volunteer in the war of 1812 at Sacketts Harbor, being then only sixteen years old.

He married Minerva Minor in 1818, and settled at Oswego, N. Y., where he occupied positions of public trust. He labored as Superintendent of Work upon the Long Pier at Oswego and upon the Erie Canal, and shared in a remarkable degree the confidence of hundreds of workmen who labored under his control. Firm discipline, tempered by Christian forbearance, won for him the esteem of all.

In April, 1833, he removed with his family to Ohio, landing at Huron May 8th. He conveyed his family to —— Ashenhurst's, east of Berlin Centre, where he left them while he located his farm. He cut a wagon path in a south-easterly direction from Birmingham, a son of ten years driving an ox team, and selected his farm in the northwest part of Camden township (then Henrietta), being the third man to settle there.

He speedily erected a log cabin, sleeping under his wagon box at night, but before his house was completed he was joined by two of his old neighbors from Oswego, whom he welcomed with their families with such cordial hospitality as only a Pioneer can feel. By the 1st of August his family were brought in from Berlin, and on the 24th of the same month a son was born to him, being the first birth in Camden township.

But his bright hopes for the future were overclouded as it became apparent that his beloved wife was yielding to the insidious advances of consumption. She died October 2d, and was buried upon the farm; her monument records the first death in Camden.

He was married to Mindwell Shepard (sister of Deacon Shepard, a pioneer of Brownhelm) Jan. 30th, 1834.

Feeling great interest in all matters relating to the good of the community, he was preeminently a public man; endowed by nature with sound judgment and practical good sense, with a quick eye and a ready hand to aid in all matters of improvement, he was a leader in every good word and work.

Native generosity prompted all his actions, and many still living will remember the hospitable entertainment proffered them beneath his roof. He assisted in the survey of the township when "set off" from Henrietta, suggested the name for the town, and with the help of two or three neighbors built the first *public edifice* there, viz: the old log schoolhouse near what is now Hipton Station. He gave much time to the clearing out and improvement of roads, and took a deep interest in the early educational interests of the town.

He was one of seven to participate in the organization of the Baptist Church in 1834, and though deprived for many years of the privileges of the sanctuary, being afflicted with severe deafness, he was ever solicitous for the prosperity of Zion. His faith in God's providence over all His subjects was strong even unto death.

He was ever ready with sympathy and counsel for such as were distressed, and while he held the office of Justice of the Peace for seventeen years, very many disagreements that were brought before him were by him happily, though privately adjusted, to the satisfaction of the interested parties.

He sold his farm in Camden and removed to Wakeman in 1852, and, though he suffered pecuniary loss, he was cheerful and contented with

the allotment of Providence. He bequeathed not wealth to his bereaved family, but what is far better, the inheritance of the example of a life devoted to the good of his fellow men, and a name untarnished by selfish pursuits.

He died at Wakeman May 16th, 1869, aged seventy-one years, eight months and fourteen days.–[Written for the Firelands Pioneer by Mrs. M. W. French, July, 1869.

SETH C. PARKER.

The subject of this sketch died at his residence in Greenfield township, Huron county Ohio, October 19th, 1868.

He was born in Brutus, Cayuga county, New York, July 7th, 1802. From thence he emigrated February 3, 1820, to Ohio, arriving at Norwalk on the 28th, in company with his father, Thomas Parker, and his brother-in-law, Luther Hodges, and their families. They at once commenced pioneer life in earnest on the Parker tract, in the 4th section of Peru, Aug. 14, 1823. He was married to Jane Ammerman, daughter of Simon Ammerman, one of the early settlers of Bronson.

In 1828 he and his wife made a public profession of religion and joined the Free Will Baptist Church of Greenfield, of which he remained a worthy member for about forty years, until his Savior called him home. In May, 1838, he was licensed to preach, and was ordained in December, 1839. In 1835 he was a delegate to the General Conference at Byron, New York, and again in 1839 to the one at Conneaut, Ohio. His labors in the ministry were mostly within the bounds of Huron and Seneca Quarterly Meetings, and of course witnessed great changes in the life and prosperity of churches within that time.

He taught the first district school in District No. 3, Peru, in the winter of 1828–9. In March, 1850, he was elected by the General Assembly of Ohio as one of the Associate Judges of Huron county. In 1835 he was elected a Trustee of the Free Will Baptist Publication Society, located at Dover, N. H.

As a public man he was compelled to meet the moral questions of the day, and, to his honor be it said, he was always for the right. The friends of Freedom, Temperance, Sabbath Schools, the Bible cause and Missions of all denominations always found in him a zealous and hearty co-laborer. But in connection with the Fire Lands Historical Society was he best known. In truth, he was its projector. March 30, 1857, the following article appeared in the Sandusky Daily Register, then edited by Henry D. Cooke, Esq.:

A COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY.

The Pioneers—the trappers and the hunters who but little over half a century ago divided their game with the Indians, in the unbroken forests of Northern Ohio, have passed away. The earlier settlers, too, who followed close upon their footsteps with their families and their implements of husbandry and handicraft, have left among the more recent growth of the population only an occasional remnant of their hardy band. One of their number, the Rev. Seth C. Parker, of Steuben, Huron county, has written us a letter, calling our attention to a project which will especially interest all of this class in Huron and Erie counties—the organization of a Joint County Historical Society. He says: "Such societies exist in all, or nearly all the counties in the eastern part of the Reserve, and it is due to us who reside in the two western counties, to meet as soon as convenient,—say about the middle of May next—to take the preliminary steps for a similar organization. As Huron and Erie counties were for a long time embraced with-

in the limits of a single county, it is thought by many that it would be best to have both unite—at least for a time—in the proposed historical society. The history of the "Fire Lands," the sufferings of the early settlers before and during the war of 1812, together with the history and settlement of the several townships by the earnest and bold pioneers, are subjects of which but little is known by thousands of those who now reside in our pleasant towns and ambitious cities, and who reap annually in the rich fields which their fathers cleared from the forest."

Mr. Parker adds: "Will you please give the matter such notice as you think it deserves? I would suggest that at our first meeting the Township Clerks of both counties, with as many of the old settlers as can be found, who have lived longest in the several townships, be earnestly invited to attend, and that Hon. E. Cooke of Sandusky, and James Williams, Esq., of Norwalk, be invited to be present and give each an address, or "talk" to their friends of "Old Lang Syne;" and that others having in their possession any information of historical interest connected with the settlement of the two counties, come prepared to furnish a transcipt thereof, to be incorporated in the records of the Society."

Our correspondent has stated the case so well that it were superfluous for us to add to his valuable suggestions. That they will be adopted by those who yet remain of the energetic men who subdued a wilderness we have no doubt. The record of their sufferings, their privations, their labors and their triumphs should not be allowed to die with them. Such an organization as is suggested is due no less to the future than to the past, no less to the present generation than to that which is passing away. It will be the means of reminding us of our obligations to the early settlers, and will help us to keep in remembrance their noble and self-sacrificing example."

The suggestion there made was persistently presented by him to leading pioneers and friends, and resulted in the meeting for organization May 20th, 1857, at Norwalk. Platt Benedict was chosen President of the Society then organized, and Judge Parker one of the Vice Presidents. In that capacity or as Biographer he continued his active efforts for the Society till death. In season and out of season, untiring and unflagging, it may be said no one did more than he to stir up and keep alive an interest in its work. In his own language, written in view of his not distant end: "In laboring with others to create an interest in the organization of our Historical Society, I look back with pleasure to the pleasant hours spent with the noble and true who were fellow laborers in accomplishing the end already attained in the formation and perpetuation of one of the most successful Historical Societies in the State. May the blessing of Providence rest upon it and its officers and members, together with all its numerous friends. May they toil on in their labor of love until their earthly labors are closed is the ardent and sincere desire of one who has labored from the beginning for the prosperity of our beloved Society, and that it may prosper and be a blessing to others when myself and others of the early friends have passed away. Which may God grant for his Son's sake. Amen!

"Steuben, Huron County, Ohio, April 9, 1868."

His last contribution to the Society was made May 1, 1868, and closes with these words:

"My health is failing, and I am admonished that I have but little longer to stay in this vale of tears. The

Lord's will be done. My trust is in the Blessed Savior. Yea, I can say with Paul: 'It is better to depart and be with Christ.' Amen!"

His last sickness and death are best described in the following, written by the surviving partner of his joys and sorrows:

"His death was occasioned by a cancer which first made its appearance in the winter of 1859. It was on the left side of the under lip, and at first had the appearance of a slight blister. In the course of the year it grew harder and looked more like a wart, and continued to slowly increase in size until the summer of 1866, when it began to be painful and discharge. He visited several Medical Institutions and a number of our best physicians, but all to no purpose. His disease began to develop internally, and the last months of his life was a scene of almost unintermitting suffering.

"At the burial of another of our Pioneers (Erastus Smith) while standing by the open grave in company with Elder Laird, of Fairfield, who remarked to him that for all the knowledge of the 'Glorious beyond,' the grave was still a gloomy-looking place, 'Not so to me,' he replied, 'for to me it looks like a place of rest.'

"Owing to a paralysis of one side of his head and tongue, for some weeks before his death his speech was often unintelligible. On the night preceding his death our eldest son and I were watching with him. During the night he was very restless and in great pain until about 3 o'clock in the morning, when he sank into a seeming sleep, which lasted about an hour, when he aroused and exclaimed: 'Oh, what beautiful things I have seen. I want to try and tell you!' And he did so with great earnestness, but we could understand so little that I got pencil and paper, on which he wrote the following words; 'I saw twelve beautiful white oxen; they shone like silver!' then pointing upward, said they were all moving overhead. He tried to say much more, but we could not understand enough to know what. Those words were the last he ever wrote. He then lay quietly for some time, when his pain began to increase and he continued a great sufferer until his death, which took place about 12 M. His mind did not fail him until the last moment. Even after he could no longer speak he answered the questions of his children and friends by signs.

"Two days from his death his funeral was held in the F. W. Baptist Church at Greenfield, and was attended by a large concourse of people. Fifty-four relatives walked as mourners, and I know I may truly say there were many more mourning hearts in the assembly."

He was a great student of history, and indefatigable in the collection of books. At the time of his death his was probably the largest private library in Huron county, and one of the largest of any minister's in the denomination. His decease makes a chasm in the ranks of his favorite Society which no one else can fill. With Platt Benedict, George Woodruff, Elijah Bemiss and many other "mighty men" among the pioneers of the Fire Lands, he has gone to his rest.

"We live in deeds, not years—in thoughts, not breaths—
In feelings, not in figures or a dial;
We should count time by heart-throbs. He most lives
Who thinks most—feels the noblest—acts the best."

D. H. P.

NELSON TAYLOR.

Died at Perkins, Erie County, Ohio, on the afternoon of Sunday, April 10, 1870, Nelson Taylor, Esq., in the sixty-fourth year of his age.

The subject of this notice was born at Glastenburg, Connecticut, November 16, 1806. His parents

were the late Joseph Taylor, sr., and his wife, Lois Taylor. He came to Ohio with his parents, brothers and sisters in October, 1815, and the family settled near the east line and in Perkins township, on the farm since occupied by him. He was thus one of the "boy pioneers" of our township, and became inured to the rough scenes and trying prirvations of those early times. He was married to Hannah Winters October 26, 1829, and after living happily together for only fourteen months, she died, leaving motherless an infant daughter, Hannah. On June 5, 1832, he was married to Martha Atkins. The fruit of this union was six children, three of whom—Chas. W., Caroline E., and Condace D.—still survive. On February 5, 1849, his second wife died, leaving his little ones without a mother. But this loss was partly made up to them by the kind care and loving attention of his eldest daughter, Hannah.

On March 1st, 1853, he was married the third time to Charlotte Bell, who still survives to mourn with his four remaining children, the loss of a loving and kind husband and father. Mr. Taylor has been many times honored with public trusts, He has held various township offices with satisfaction to his fellow citizens, and at one time, before Erie County was formed, he was County Commissioner of Huron County, which office he held one term. In the palmiest days of the old Democratic party he was one of its most zealous and trusted leaders. Although thus politically connected, when the tocsin of war sounded in our land, like all true men of his party, and every party, his patriotism was above partizanship, and his voice and money were freely given to aid in restoring to peace and union our beloved country. He was public spirited and his neighbors could always count on him to do his share in making public improvements and sustaining public charity.

As a neighbor he was kind and obliging, making sacrifices even to accommodate those who needed help. He was one of the few men whose every day life was full of little acts of kindness, which like the gentle dew blesses all that comes within its reach. But highly as he was regarded by all who knew him, in his own family and the sacred precints of home, where he was best known, he was best appreciated. Here, untrammeled by outer surroundings, his genial nature and affectionate disposition had full play. He was, emphatically, the light of home, and it was here that the noblest traits of his character showed themselves. He was never so happy as when surrounded by his children and grandchildren. Their joys were his joys and their sorrows his sorrows. Pure and upright in his dealings with others he was universally respected for his sterling integrity. He was no idler, but always employed. After an illness of about two weeks, against which medical skill seemed of no avail, he sank gently to rest retaining his consciousness to the last, and surrounded by all of his children, the wife of his bosom and a host of relations and friends.

His funeral services were held at the Brick Church at 2 o'clock P. M., on Tuesday, April 12th. The large concourse of people filling the large audience-room, showed the appreciation with which the deceased was held. Delegations were present from different parts of the country. The discourse was delivered by Rev. L. B. Gurley, an intimate friend of Mr. Taylor in pioneer-boy life, and in the riper years of manhood. He feelingly referred to the friendship existing between them in the past, and the many noble qualities of character which endeared the deceased

to all who knew him. In the course of his remarks he paid a glowing tribute to the pioneers of Perkins. He was assisted in the exercises by the pastor, Rev. E. Persons.

Thus one by one the stream of time is rapidly bearing from among us the last remnant of that interesting generation of pioneers. He rests in the grave into which the hands of a loving circle have lowered him.

COM.

JOHN CHERRY.

Died in Fairfield, after a long illness, April 8th, John Cherry, aged 72 years.

Mr. Cherry was born March 20th, 1798, in Seneca County, New York. He moved to Fairfield in September, 1821. He was a man of energy and sterling integrity. In the various relations of husband, father, brother, neighbor and friend, few men discharged their duties better, or were more universally respected, and long will he be remembered by his friends and neighbors both old and young.

The deceased leaves a widow and three children—two sons and one daughter.

NEIGHBOR.

Fairfield, April 19, 1870.

WM. H. CRANE.

Died at Vermillion, Erie County, Ohio, on the evening of April 2, 1870, very suddenly, Wm. H. Crane, Esq., in the 57th year of his age.

The subject of this notice was born at Southbury, Connecticut, May 14, 1813. His parents were the late Joel Crane, Esq., and his wife Olive Mitchell Crane. He came to Ohio with his parents and brothers and sister in June 1817, and the family settled near the north line of and in Florence Township, on the farm since occupied by him; but the residence was long ago removed to the present family mansion in Vermillion. He was thus a child pioneer and grew up amidst the rough and trying scenes of new country life. His parents being pecuniarily better off than most of the early settlers, he did not suffer all the privations and hardships consequent to poverty and pioneering, but received a fair common school education, and by means of some years of practical training as clerk in a dry goods store, and in a postoffice at Norwalk, aquired a fair business education.

He was a dutiful and conscientious boy and young man; appearing—if such a thing can be—to have been by nature religiously disposed; never or very seldom joining in the amusements common to youth. He made public profession of faith in Christ and joined the Congregational Church in 1830 or 1831 and continued through all vicisitudes to maintain his standing therein, and before the world as a worthy, trusted and liberal Christian. He was married on the 27th of October, 1841, to Miss Harriet Chandler, eldest daughter of the late Daniel Chandler, sr., who proved a worthy mate for such a man, and still survives to mourn his sudden departure. They had a son and daughter who survive also.

Mr. Crane was a most kind, loving and obliging husband and father, a bountiful provider, and emphatically hospitable. To use a Westernism, his "latch-string was always hanging out." The rich, the poor, the weary missionary, the Bible agent, the Freedmen's agent, were made welcome and enjoyed his liberal hospitality and shared his purse. His was no sordid miserly hend, that clutched within its iron grasp all the good that came within reach, and hoarded it to selfishly gloat over, but with a liberal hand, he aided in every way every noble and beneficent cause. He was loyal and patriotic, and, in the hour of his country's danger, hesitated not to give up his only son to die, if need be, that the republic might live and liberty not perish from the earth. He was a friend to

the down-trodden and oppressed. His neighbors could always count on him to do his share in making public improvements and sustaining public enterprises and charities.

But it is within the last few years, in consequence of his position as one of the Board of Commissioners of Erie County, his worth has become more extensively known and appreciated. The very onerous duties now devolving on the members of that board rendered it necessary for him to devote most of his time thereto. How diligently, how faithfully, with what punctuality and perseverence he has devoted himself to those duties, his fellow-members and the various county officers can especially, and the public generally, bear witness.

We claim no infallibility for him. In the discharge of his arduous duties he has been called upon to adjudicate conflicting claims, which have touched most of the pockets of the people of his county. It would be strange indeed, if no blunder had been committed, no one wronged, but this we are bold to declare, that we have unwavering faith in his intentions to do right.

He may have enemies, strange if he has not; but so far as we are acquainted with the causes, we trust it has generally been from a perversion, or misapprehension of the facts; and that there will be very few, indeed, who a year hence will hold that Wm. H. Crane intentionally did them a wrong.

Mr. Crane was an agreeable companion, and with a reasonably fair address, but still he grew in the esteem of the people the more they became acquainted with him. He had not a very happy faculty of expressing his ideas, but his just and friendly intentions and open-hearted honesty, combined with good sound common sense and judgment, recommended him to the confidence of all who knew him well.

He was very peaceable, too much so to defend his own rights at times; and would much rather suffer than do wrong; a faithful friend and by universal consent a good neighbor in sickness and in health, in prosperity or adversity.

In his private business he was no schemer for good bargains. Hard labor, patient industry was his forte. Always prompt, energetic, ahead; his mind was too active for the physical organization, and it often gave out, and was unable to perform all that was required. Although laboring under many physical ills, he still kept working on. Sensible that he was liable, nay, expecting to be called away suddenly, he kept his worldly affairs—and we trust also his spiritual—in every-day readiness for the change; and the day of his death was spent in the store in faithful labor for the public. He retired to rest after a cheerful evening with his family, and in a few minutes ceased to labor and to live.

His township has lost one of its most honored citizens; the church a faithful member; the County Agricultural Society its Vice President, and the county a faithful officer, whose place it may be difficult to again so well fill, and the Fire Lands Historical Society a worthy member and officer. But above all, at his own fireside will he be most missed and lamented.

His funeral was attended at his late residence on Tuesday, April 5th, by a very large concourse of sympathizing friends and neighbors, together with many distinguished citizens from various parts of the county, who, by their conduct, evidenced that in this sad affliction each one had met an individual personal loss. The sermon was preached by his pastor, Rev. E. Barber.

LYDIA KINSLEY.

Died in New London village, Ohio, at the residence of Mr. Wm. Belding, her son-in-law, Mrs. Lydia Kinsley, widow of 'Squire Peter Kinsley, on the morning of November 20, 1869.

Mrs. Kinsley was one of the few remaining pioneers of the village, and was born in Leicester, Addison county, Vermont, January 24, 1797, and was the daughter of Joseph Merrifield, whose family came to New London Dec. 22, 1817. She was married to Peter Kinsley, March 12, 1820, thus becoming the wife of him who was the first merchant, first hotel keeper, first postmaster, and first justice of the peace in this place.

Mrs. K. lived to pass through all the mutations of a forest home, and reaped all the varied gradations of honor peculiar to her day—wife, christian, mother, widow and friend.

For the last ten or fifteen years of her life she went very little in the society of the village, and the place where her active younger days had been spent, where she once knew ALL for miles around, had to her grown to become the land of strangers. She seldom went to the place of public worship, as the preachers of "now-a-days" did not explain the word of God to her understanding. She told the writer of this brief notice only a few weeks prior to her demise, that she found "more comfort and truth at home reading her Bible than she could at the church"; to which I readily assented, believing that every one should be thoroughly grounded in the faith.

She had been living for the past few years with her daughter, M. L. Belding, and enjoyed almost perfect health. It may truly be said of her that so quietly did she discharge her duties to her children and her grand children, that beyond the family sphere but few of the citizens of our busy town realized that the good old lady lived in our midst. See died of old age—the physical system simply broken down by diarrhoea. Her age was 72 years, 9 months and 26 days. Thus the chain that united us to a passed generation has again been severed, and "the mourners go about the street."

A. D. SKELLENGER.

DANIEL CHANDLER.

Died at Birmingham, Erie county, Ohio, October 21, 1869, Daniel Chandler, Esq., in the 79th year of his age.

He was born in the town of Warwick, Orange county, New York, in October, 1791, and had just entered upon his 79th year. His schooling was limited, and he was brought up to the carpenter's trade, came a single man to the State of Ohio, and settled near what is now the village of Birmingham in the spring of 1816, being one of the first three settlers there, and where he has resided since. He came poor, yet rich in strong hands, good habits and a will to hew out a fortune in the wilderness. He, as a mechanic, built the two first frame houses in Florence township, to-wit: That of the late Joel Crane, Esq., in the spring of 1817, and of the late Judge Sprague, in 1818; took up on credit the lot of which he made a fine farm, and for years divided his time between his trade and clearing his land. In the fall of 1818 he was married to Sallie Summers, who bore him thirteen children, ten of whom arrived at maturity and were permitted, with their aged mother, to follow him to his final resting place. His descendants now number some thirty or forty.

He possessed a discriminating mind, sound judgement, and energy and tact enough to bring success in any business he undertook; and being prompt and honest, possessed the confidence of the community. He early embraced religion as the guiding star of his life, and was a

honored and trusted member and pillar of the Baptist church. His faith never wavered, and when, in a good old age, he came to the cold waters of Jordan, his faith failed not, but with joy he contemplated the better land beyond—desiring—nay, longing to depart and be with Christ. Few have done more to convert the wilderness into a fruitfield. Few have labored with more uniform and implicit confidence in God, and few have been more abundantly blessed in both temporal and spiritual matters. Though his disease was very painful and he suffered much, his end was peace.

At the rate the old pioneers are leaving us, it will soon be asked, "And the Pioneers, where are they?"

COM.

JOHN HAGAMAN.

Died in Bronson, on the 29th of January last, Mr. John Hagaman, aged 68 years and 7 months.

The deceased came to this State in 1818, and settled in Bronson township on the tract of land where he has lived, a thrifty farmer, ever since. He was emphatically *a pioneer of the Fire Lands.* He came from Cayuga county, New York.

EBENEZER OSBORN.

Died March 18, 1867, at his residence in Fitchville township, Mr. Ebenezer Osborn, aged 67 years, 3 months and 5 days.

Ebenezer Osborn was born in Windham, Green County, New York, in 1801. He removed to Ohio in the fall of 1826, in company with Allen Johnson and wife. He endured all the privations and hardships incident to pioneer life. He was one of the number of those who waged incessant war with the forest, amid the toils and discouragements of a new country, and it is with commendable pride as they sit in the shadow of years that they look on the broad and well tilled acres which their strong hands have cleared. Such should have all due honor and praise.

Let their memories be perpetuated. Such men need no labored eulogy to set forth their merits. "To hold in grateful remembrance the illustrious dead is not only a debt we owe to them, but a duty we owe to ourselves and posterity."

To this honored class belonged my father, Ebenezer Osborn. As a husband and father he was kind and indulgent; as a friend and neighbor genial and obliging. He was a consistent Christian, ever striving to maintain a religious character. He needs no higher encomium than the numbers that gathered to pay the last tribute of respect to his memory.

He leaves a bereaved circle of friends who knew him only to love him, yet we hope to meet again on the shore of a bright eternity.

E. OSBORN, Jr.

HISTORICAL SOCIETIES IN OHIO.

We have endeavored, below, to give a list of all the local societies in the State with their officers. If any are omitted it arises from failure to promptly respond to our inquiries. We welcome them, one and all, to the important work of rescuing from destruction the historical records of their respective localities, and trust the time is not distant when a combined effort will be made embracing the entire State:

FIRE LANDS HISTORICAL SOCIETY, NORWALK, O., ORGANIZED JULY 4, 1857.

President—Z. Phillips.

Vice Presidents—John H. Niles, Benjamin Summers, Martin Kellogg, Hosea Townsend, Philo Wells.

Recording Secretary—W. C. Allen.

Corresponding Secretaries—F. D. Parish, P. N. Schuyler.

Treasurer—F. Sears.

Biographer—Benjamin Summers.

Directors—F. D. Parish, Z. Phillips, G. T. Stewart, P. N. Schuyler. D. H. Pease.

Annual meetings at Norwalk on the second Wednesday of June.

SENECA COUNTY PIONEER AND HISTORICAL SOCIETY, TIFFIN, O.

President—Dr. Henry Kuhn.

Secretary and Biographer—William Lang.

Treasurer—Lyman White.

HISTORICAL AND PHILOSOPHICAL SOCIETY OF OHIO; CINCINNATI.

President—M. F. Force.

Vice Presidents—W. H. Mussey, S. E. Wright.

Corresponding Secretary—L. E. Mills.

Recording Sec't'y—Horatio Wood.

Treasurer—Robert Clarke.

Librarian—Julius Dexter.

Curators—E. F. Bliss, J. W. Johnston, Geo. M. Laughlin, J. M. Newton, W. H. Venable.

Annual meeting on the first Monday of December.

WESTERN RESERVE HISTORICAL SOCIETY; CLEVELAND; ORGANIZED IN 1867.

President—Charles Whittlesey.

Vice Presidents—Martin B. Scott, J. H. Salisbury.

Treasurer—Samuel Williamson.

Secretary—Alfred T. Goodman.

Curators—Joseph Perkins, Charles Whittlesey, Charles T. Sherman, John W. Allen, J. H. A. Bone, Chas. C. Baldwin, Samuel Williamson, Henry A. Harvey, Alfred T. Goodman, H. M. Chapin, B. A. Stanard, William Bingham, James Barnett.

MAD RIVER PIONEER ASSOCIATION SOCIETY; SPRINGFIELD; ORGANIZED MAY 2, 1870.

President—A. H. Bassett.

Vice President—Thomas F. McGrew.

Secretary—C. M. Nichols.

Treasurer—James S. Christie.

Librarian—W. W. Beach.

LICKING COUNTY PIONEER SOCIETY; NEWARK.

President—Hon. William Stanbery.

Vice Presidents—Dr. Wilson, T. J. Anderson, Daniel Forry.

Corresponding Secretary—William Spencer.

Recording Sec't'y—Isaac Smucker

Treasurer—Enoch Wilson.

Committee on Antiquities—Rev. H. M. Hervey, Rev. D. Tenney, Rev. W. Bower, Samuel Hunter, Esq., J. M. Dennis, Esq., Jacob M. Shrock.

Pioneer Committee—Col. A. Sherwood, John Johnson, John Connell, David Wilson, Esq., Col. Jonathan Hughes, Charles Barnes, Gen. Hamilton, Major Pratt.

Committee on memoirs—C. B. Giffin, M. M. Munson, P. N. O'Bannon, D. Messenger, I. Smucker.

RICHLAND COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY; MANSFIELD; ORGANIZED OCTOBER 21, 1869.

President—Alexander C. Welch.

Vice Presidents—John Woods, Butler township; Charles Savers, Bloominggrove tp.; J. E. Bevier, Cass tp.; Michael Keith, Franklin tp.; Calvin Clark, Jackson tp.; Reuben Evarts, Jefferson tp.; Calvin Stewart, Madison tp.; David Miller, Mifflin tp.; Daniel Snyder, Monroe tp.; James Doty, Plymouth tp.; John Steel, Perry tp.; John Finney, Springfield tp.; Dr. John Mack, Sharon tp.; James Reed, Sandusky tp.; James R. Gass, Troy tp.; Benjamin Dean, Washington tp.; Nathaniel Pittenger, Weller tp.; T. B. Andrews, Worthington tp.

Recorder—Henry C. Hedges.

Secretary—Gen. R. Brinkerhoff.

ATHENS COUNTY PIONEER ASSOCIATION; ATHENS; ORGANIZED DEC. 26, 1868.

President—Gen. John Brown.

Vice President—Hon. Calvary Morris.

Corresponding Secretary—A. G. Brown.

Recording Secretary—A. B. Walker.

Treasurer—John Brown, Esq.

Executive Committee—H. B. Brawley, Esq., Dr. William Blackstone, William Golden, F. Beardsley, G. M. McDougall.

Franklin County Pioneer Association, Columbus. (No report received.)

Maumee Valley Historical Society, Toledo. (No report received.)

LEAVES FROM THE HISTORY OF HARTLAND.

BY AN OLD SETTLER.

By previous arrangement, a mass celebration was held at the residence of J. Ozier in Canterbury (now Hartland), on the 4th day of July, 1821. The day was spent in shooting at target, reading Declaration of Independence, making patriotic speeches, feasting on bear meat, and other good things in abundance, winding up in the evening with singing and dancing by the boys and girls—not your modern gents and ladies, but real genuine Pioneers. All enjoyed themselves well.

The April election in 1827 was a very exciting one. The contest was on Supervisor of Roads. One party wanted, as they said, "to plow the Ridge," the other to work some on other roads. Well, we counted noses and found that we stood six to seven—six for Ridge and seven against. One of the seven, an old chap that liked the jug pretty well, agreed with the Ridge party for one jug of whiskey to vote with them—the penalty to be if he did not that he should be kicked from the school house to his home. He carried out his agreement, and the Ridge got all the work.

The following are copied from the Township records:

"FIRST ELECTION, APRIL 1826.

"Eli Barnum and Daniel Miner chosen clerks of election; Nathan Miner, Josiah Kilborn and Allen Mead judges of election; poll-books made; the box opened; received the ballots; the box opened and the ballots counted. Found that Daniel Miner was elected Township Clerk; Nathan Miner, Josiah Kilborn and

Jesse Taintor Trustees; Libens Storrs and James White Overseers of Poor; Elijah Bills and Libens Storrs Fence Viewers; Libens Storrs and Allen Mead Appraisers of Property; Allen Mead Lister; Allen Mead Treasurer; Arthur Howard Constable; Nathan Miner and Daniel Miner Supervisors of Roads. Box and papers left with Clerk."

"Election called together for the purpose of electing a Justice of the Peace in Hartland, on the twenty-fourth day of May, 1826. Daniel Miner and Elnathan J. Waldron were clerks of election, and Jesse Taintor, Nathan Miner and Josiah Kilborn served as judges. Poll-book made; ballot-box opened; proceeded to elect Eli Barnum Justice of Peace by a majority."

SCHOOL DISTRICT No. 1.

Hartland Township is declared by the Trustees of said township to be one district for the purpose of a school, said district to be known as School District No. 1. Names and number of householders in said district: Josiah Kilborn, Wm. Howard, Daniel Miner, Elijah Bills, Samuel White, Jesse Taintor, Nathan Miner, Sylvester Waldron, Libens Storrs, Allen Mead, Eli Barnum, Henry Pickard. April 10, 1826.

"Sept. 5. 1826.—Trustees sold the following jobs on road:

Section 1—Forty rods to be chopped 60 feet wide and cleared 40 feet to Elijah Bills for the sum of $3.00.

Sec. 2.—40 rods to Josiah Kilborn, $2.72.

Sec. 3, 4 and 5—to Josiah Kilborn, each $2.70.

Sec. 6, 7 and 8—To Jesse Taintor, each $2.74."

FIRST SETTLEMENT.

"March 5, 1827.—Township officers met for settlement. Trustees settled with Supervisors of Roads; also gave orders on the Treasurer as follows:

To Eli Barnum thirty-three cents, for services as Clerk.

Elnathan J. Waldron thirty-three cents, for services as Clerk of Election.

Josiah Kilborn $1.61, for services as Trustee.

Nathan Miner $2.70, for services as Trustee.

Jesse Taintor $1.33, for services as Trustee.

Daniel Miner $3.33, for services as Clerk.

[The latter item included a Township Record Book.—Ed.]

In 1833 a post-office was first established in Hartland on the Ridge, and Daniel Miner, now of Norwalk, was appointed post-master, which position he continued to hold for 21 years. Mr. M. was also the first hotel keeper in the township, occupying for 21 years the house on the Ridge now the residence of Oliver Thomas, and it is said of him that he never had a fight around his premises nor an indictment found against him.

OHIO FIFTY FOUR YEARS AGO.

We have before us a bound volume of the Ohio Register, published at Clinton, Knox county, Ohio, by Smith & McArdle, and dating from May 14, 1814, to June 13, 1815. Its size is less than one-half that of the Daily Commercial. In the size of type, quality of paper and contents, it is a curiosity, greatly contrasting with the journals of the present day. The junior of the publishers, the venerable John P. McArdle, is still in the enjoyment of a good old age, having on the 18th inst. passed his 84th birth-day. He is a resident of Fremont. He is a book-binder as

well as a printer, both of which trades he pursued at Clinton, and the latter of which he still follows.

Clinton was laid out by S. H. Smith, one of the publishers of the Register, and located about two miles from Mt. Vernon, with which place it bitterly contended for the county-seat on the organization of Knox county. A good story is told in this connection, indicating that "policy" was not entirely unknown even to the pioneers of that age. Clinton was the larger town of the two. The commissioners appointed to locate the county-seat first visited Mt. Vernon, where they were received with much cordiality, and entertained with marked attention at the only pubic house, a log tavern. To impress the commissioners with a proper sense of the place, the population turned out, coats off, and went to grubbing the streets, and continued thus employed during the stay of the visitors. As soon as the latter left, the work was suspended, and a portion of the laborers hurried over to Clinton, ahead of the commissioners, where they assumed the character of drunken "roughs," and by personal contact and other modes of insult, provoked a bitter prejudice against Mt. Vernon's rival, and thus contributed to the decision of the contest. Clinton is now no more, the site having been for many years devoted to agriculture.

The first column of the Register is set apart as the "Temple of the Muses," and devoted to poetry, chiefly selected. The issue of May 24, has European news to Feb. 22d, New York dates to April 20, and Washington to May 7th. The editor depended for his news upon a weekly mail from Pittsburg. As this was during the war with Great Britain, the contents of the Register was largely made of war news, the first number having intelligence of the capture by the U. S. sloop of-war Peacock, of the British sloop of-war Epervier.

To show the idea entertained in those primitive days of the married state, we quote the motto at the head of the Register's hymenial department, to-wit:

"The world's Great Author did create
The sex to fit the nuptial state;
And meant a blessing in a wife
To solace the fatigues of life."

Judging from the court records of the present day, the "fit" of "the sex" is not what it once was.

We have the prospectus issued by Edward Shaeffer, of a new paper to be published in the "borough of Lancaster, to be called the 'Lancaster Correspondent'," to be "delivered in town immediately, and in the country by the earliest conveyance." What do readers of this day think of that? A "square" is described as "advertisements of no more length than breadth." John H. Piatt, of Cincinnati, advertises for 5,000 bbls. flour and 200 bbls. whiskey, to be delivered "at a certainty, at Fort Meigs or at any convenient place on the Lake Shore." The Register had a peculiar way of enforcing prepayment for advertisements, by insisting if *not* settled in advance, they would be "continued uutil paid for"—somewhat different from the later rule.

The Register for May 31st has quite a full report of the trial of Gen. William Hull, for treason, cowardice and neglect of duty as commander of the American forces in Northwestern Ohio and Michigan. One of the specifications of the first charge was as follows:

"That he traitorously contrived to convey intelligence of the declaration of war; of the expedition under his command, and of the number, state and condition of his army; by hiring an unarmed vessel at the rapids of the Miami of the Lake [Maumee,] and putting on board a trunk containing a copy of the declaration of war, his correspondence with the Secretary of War, &c., with the intent that they should fall into the hands of the enemy."

All the charges were connected with Hull's abandonment of his position near Malden and surrender at Detroit, in August, 1812. The trial commenced in January 1814, and resulted, March 23d, in pronouncing Hull guilty of the second and third charges and not guilty of the first, and by a vote of two-thirds of the Court he was sentenced "to be shot to death," but he was recommended to the mercy of the President, by whom he was pardoned and his name was stricken from the army rolls. Martin Van Buren was Judge Advocate in this trial.

The Register of September 17, 1814, contains an exhibit of the receipts and expenditures of Knox county for the preceding year, the former amounting to $1,109 27 and the latter $950 44. The receipts were—from licenses for taverns and stores $103 58, from non-resident collector $451 70, and from County collector $405 16. Among the items of expenditure were—Treasurer's fees $44 39, petty jury $6 25; C. R. Sherman (father of the Senator) Pros. Attorney, $50; "Court accommodation," $7 00.

In the number for Dec. 31, 1814, we find the "Articles of Association of the Stockholds of the Owl Creek Bank of Mt. Vernon," an institution which subsequently gained an extended, if not enviable, reputation. The articles stipulated for the continuance of the Bank "until the 4th day of May, 1830," but circumstances over which its managers had no control, somewhat abbreviated its existence. Like the "Bank of Sandusky Bay" and other cotemporaries, it turned out very much of a "Wild Cat" affair.

At the October election of 1814, the following Congressmen were chosen in Ohio: 1st district, John McLean, (afterwards of the U. S. Supreme Court); 2d do., John Alexander; 3d do., Wm. Creighton; 4th do., Jas. Caldwell; 5th do., James Kilbourne; 6th do., David Clendenin.

"Jackson's Victory" at New Orleans, January 8th, is chronicled in the Register of the 7th of February.

Associate Judges were then chosen for each county by the Legislature. In February, 1815, Ebenezer Merry, Almon Ruggles and Jabez Wright were elected as the first for Huron county. At the same session the following acts were passed:

To incorporate the village of Cleveland.

To organize the county of Huron.

To incorporate the city of Cincinnati.

Under the date of April 18, 1815, is recorded the marriage of Samuel Wallace, aged 15, to Mrs. Betsey Coffin, aged 75! The same number has the death, at Clinton, of Mr. Sely Simkins, aged 88, who left a widow 25 years old!

The Postmaster at Clinton was Ichabod Marshall, the same, as we understand it, who was subsequently a prominent citizen of Norwalk, and was chief manager of the "Norwalk Manufacturing Company," whose paper-mill was the pioneer of its Class in Northern Ohio.

The Buffalo Gazette of May 2, 1815, states that the water in Lake Erie had risen full three feet in three years, and was still rising.

A New York date of May 23, 1815, records that "in the presence of the commissioners and a number of scientific gentlemen, the machinery of the steam vessel of war, Fulton the First, was put in motion by the force of steam for the first time," and its operation "exceeded the most sanguine expectation." That was in the infancy of steamboating. The steamboat Swiftsure left Montreal for Quebec on the 7th of April.

John Zolman advertises "two horse creatures" which strayed away from him.

Under the heading "Improve the Golden Opportunity!" Almon Ruggles and Nathaniel Ledyard advertise lands in the town of New London, Huron county, "in the Fire Land Tract," the first twenty families to have "fifty acres each given," and to pay one dollar an acre for what they want in addition, payable in five years. Mills were to be erected by the proprietors of the land "as soon as convenient." They say "the land, water and climate are excellent and healthful." They no doubt thought so, but those who that year (1815) accepted the above liberal terms, failed to see the "healthful" feature of the case, unless free exercise in ague-gymnastics may be called so. A few witnesses to the "golden opportunity" of New London still live, with a lively recollection of their experience there.

The "restoration of Bonaparte" is announced May 16, 1815, as having occurred March 20th. The Empress Marie Louise, was to enter the French capital April 4th, with 25,000 men. The General Staff of the President, under the peace establishment, is announced to be composed of Maj. Gen. Jacob Brown, (brother of Gen. J. W. Brown, now of Tecumseh, Mich.,) and Andrew Jackson, and Brig. Gens. Scott, Gaines, Macomb and Ripley.

This ancient volume is full of interesting records, made curious by the lapse of over half a century of time. How very few of the individuals associated with them are living to recount their early experiences. Can it be that the events in which the present generation participate will ever be as interesting to those who come after us?—[Toledo Commercial.

FIRST SETTLERS OF WAYNE COUNTY.

CAPTIVITY OF RICHARD RUE AND GEORGE HOLMAN.

FROM THE RICHMOND TELEGRAPH.

As previously stated, these persons were taken captives and held for several years by the Indians. Some account of their adventure may not be out of place here.

On the 11th of February, 1781, Rue and Holman accompanied as guards a wagoner named Irvin Hinton from Louisville to Harrodsburg, Ky. Hinton was going to Harrodsburg for a load of provision to supply the block house at the village of Louisville, and more from custom than from fear of molestation, the young men accompanied him. Soon after beginning the journey, a snow-storm commenced and continued until after noon. To prevent the snow from dampening the powder in their rifles they had been fired off. Rue walked ahead of the wagon several rods, while Holman was an equal distance behind. When they reached a hill about eight miles from Louisville, Hinton heard some one say "Ho!" to the horses. He stopped, asked first Holman, and then Rue, if they had called out. Each said they had not, but had heard the call, and supposed one of the others made it. While thus standing in amazement, a voice said, "I will solve the mystery for you. It was Simon Girty that cried 'ho!' and he meant what he

said." At the same time that notorious renegade emerged from a sink hole near the roadside, followed by thirteen Indians, and demanded instant surrender. Rue raised his gun to shoot Girty, but remembering it was unloaded, took it down, and the whole party gave themselves up.

The captors used all possible speed to get their prisoners away from so near the forts. They took the harness from the horses, and bound the prisoners with the lines. Mounting the horses and leading the prisoners, they hurried toward the Ohio river. They arrived before dark, found three canoes concealed on the south bank of the river. The whole party crossed, and hurried toward Wa-puc-ca-nat-ta. (This Indian town stood near the site of the village of Wapakonnetta, Auglaize Co., Ohio.)

It was late that night before they halted, and then they were some twenty miles north from the Ohio. Here they encamped without building a fire. For the purpose of eluding pursuit, if any should be attempted, a feint was made by traveling awhile toward the Indian town near Vincennes. The next day was spent in this detour.

Rue had been in several campaigns against the Indians, and had obtained some smattering of their language. Girty generally conversed in the Delaware dialect, and from the expressions of Rue's countenance suspected that he comprehended what was said. He therefore contrived to separate Rue from the other captives, and enquired of them if Rue had not been in some campaigns against the Indians. Admonished by uplifted tomahawks and reminded that if the Indians ever caught them in a lie, death was the penalty, they reluctantly confessed that Rue had been in several such expeditions. Rue chanced to overhear this conversation and feared that his hour had come. But knowing how highly bravery was esteemed by the Indians, he approached the camp and seated himself on a log by Girty, as though he knew nothing of what had transpired. Presently Girty asked him, "Rue, were you ever in a campaign against the Indians?" "Yes." "How many?" "Four." "Were you with General Clark at the taking of Vincennes?" "I was." "Were you with him when he made his dash against Chillicothe and destroyed the Piqua towns and Loramie's Store?" "I was." Girty sprang from his seat in great rage and exclaimed: "You played h—l there! didn't you? I have a mind to split your skull with this hatchet!" But he changed the weapon in his hand, and struck Rue only with the handle.

The party relaxed their speed on the third day, and changing their course, proceeded through the Blue and White river countries, toward the headwaters of the Wabash. On this journey, the Indians generally camped without fire. At night they tied the hands of the captives behind them and made them sleep between two guards who lay on the ends of the cords which bound them. The food during the journey consisted of game hastily prepared.

When within a day's journey of Wa-puc-ca-nat-ta, a messenger was sent forward to announce their coming. Arriving in sight of the town, they saw the inhabitants drawn up in two lines prepared for the gauntlet. Girty explained the custom to the prisoners. Hinton and Rue passed through and arrived in the council house after having received such blows as they could not dodge. Holman manifested great reluctance to enter, and remonstrated with Girty for desiring one so young and reduced by hard marching to go through so severe an ordeal. After a short parley the plan was changed, and women and children took the

lines with switches. Holman was now told to go through, which he did, all seeming to enjoy it as a joke.

A council was held at this place, but did not decide upon the fate of the captives, on account of the absence of some important personages.

Hinton, who had assumed the appearance of contentment and cheerfulness, so as to deceive his captors, now contemplated an escape. His companions counseled him to wait a while, as something might turn up in their favor. But he kept his plans entirely secret, and in a few nights afterwards it was announced that "Red Head" (as the Indians called him) had escaped. A general pursuit was instituted. In a day or so all had returned, and they gruntingly shook his scalp in the faces of his companions and asked them "if they could smell the fire on the scalp of their old friend. We cooked him and left him for the wolves to make a breakfast upon! That is the way we serve runaway prisoners."

Shortly after this event a general rendezvous of the Indians was called near Detroit, and all the prisoners at Wa-puc-ca-nat-ta, Chillicothe and other points were requested to be brought. Girty and his party started to the designated meeting. At the end of the third day's march they arrived at a town near the site of Toledo. It was decided there that the prisoners run the gauntlet, and as the neighboring chiefs were assembled, the trial of Rue and Holman was determined upon.

As they approached the town the lines were formed for the race. Rue was started down the course with a stout warrior flourishing an old sword. Rue was well nigh stunned by the blows he received. His pursuer pressed hard upon him, and hit him a couple of strokes on the head. Rue leaped over a brush fence, but finding his pursuer had come over also, he pretended to stumble and fall. The "big Ingun" threatened him with the sword, but he lay still as if unable to rise. The Indian retired several paces, and motioned him to get up. Rue motioned his pursuer to get over the fence, which he did. Rue then sprang nimbly to his feet and reached the council house without any further blows, amid the cheers of his tormentors, who could not but admire his stratagem. Holman was compelled to pass this time without the dilution of women and switches.

The programme was continued by a feast and scalp dance. The latter performance seemed to betoken no good to the prisoners. A council was then held, and at last a vote taken. Soon after the council broke up, Girty came to announce to them their anticipated doom.

Preparations were made for burning them. Their faces were blacked, as was the custom before adminising the "most extreme punishment known to the law."

Some strange excitement seemed to pervade the camp. Crowds lingered around the council house conversing in excited and angry tones. After awhile a noble-looking warrior approached the prisoners and spoke a few words to the guard in the Mingo language. He then cut the cords that bound Holman and led him away, had the black washed from his face, and putting his hands upon the boy's head, said: "I adopt you as a son, to fill the place of one I have lately buried. You are now a kinsman of Logan—once called the 'friend of the white man,' but lately the terrible avenger of his wrongs."

Presently two Indians came to Rue, unbound him, stripped him, and led him to a stake in the centre of a circle of dried brushwood. The contention seemed to break out afresh. Tomahawks and knives were brandished, and a general *melee* appeared

imminent. The fire was about to be applied, when a tall, young Shawnee, son of the victim's captor, sprang into the ring, cut the cords with his tomahawk, and led Rue forth amid the mingled and noisy cheers and curses of the opposing party. The young Shawnee, regardless of all threats or remonstrances, had Rue washed and clothed, and told his opposers that he took the prisoner for his brother; they ought to be satisfied with the death of "Red Head;" they needed no more victims, especially the blood of these innocent young men; and besides, this was his father's captive, and they had not consulted him. A majority favored the release, and after some discussion the Shawnee's action was sustained.

This unexpected termination of the affair produced some discord in the bands there assembled, and they separated. Holman wat taken back to Wa-puc-a-nat-ti, where he remained most of the time during his captivity. Rue was taken first to the Mississinnewa, and afterward to the Wabash. He spent two years of his captivity in the countries watered by the Wabash and Illinois rivers and their tributaries, and on the prairies—his accounts of which when he returned home were disbelieved.

The last months of his captivity Rue spent near Detroit. Here his attention was attracted by an Indian fortune-teller who was performing with apparent good success. Rue and two other captives concluded to try his skill, by interrogating him in regard to their families. So when a private chance occurred they held the consultation. The seer spread out a deer skin, and covered it with enchanted sand; then, after looking steadily into the sand, he said he saw Rue's folks, and gave their number, age and appearance with such accuracy as to almost convince Rue that he was a veritable wizzard. Presently the seer remarked: "You all intend to make your escape—and you will effect it soon." He gazed again at the sand, and continued: "You will meet with many trials and hardships in passing over so wild a district of country, inhabited by so many hostile nations of Indians. You will almost starve to death; but about the time you have given up all hope of finding game to sustain you in your famished condition, succor will come when you least expect it. I see dimly the carcass of some wild animal taken as game. What it is I can't clearly see. It will be a masculine of some kind. After that you will find plenty of game, and you will all arrive safely at your homes." They denied all intentions or desire to escape, but told him as they had paid him for his professional services, they would expect him to divulge only to them the vision he had in regard to their future. He kept his honor.

After a while they found an opportunity to set out. They traveled as rapidly as possible during the night and remained in the swamps during the day, not daring to make a fire, or shoot any game, had they seen any. They could not catch even a frog from the stagnant pools around them. At dark they ventured forth and were guided in their journey by the stars or the moss on the north side of the trees, when the stars were not to be seen. The second day they could catch no game. Although Rue was well acquainted with the country, he dare not go to any of the hunting or fishing places for fear of being recaptured. Notwithstanding they were in Indian costume, they greatly feared discovery, for the Indians must by this time be aware of their escape and be on the search for them. On the third day, pressed with hunger, they decided that Rue should venture forth in

quest of some game. He met with no success. They were now near the Wabash, which abounded with fine fish, but they did not attempt to spear any of them by torch-light, lest the light might betray their whereabouts.

The next day Rue returned from another fruitless expedition. They sat down, and felt like giving up to despair. After a little while one of the other men said, "Let me try my luck, or lack of luck once more." He took a gun and was soon out of sight. Not much expectation was raised as to his success, as his want of skill was well known to his companions. But in less than three hours he returned, bearing a small buck, which he had killed and partly dressed. The prediction, or sight, or guess of their oracle came to their minds now. "It is a masculine—after killing it you will find plenty of game, and you will arrive safely at your homes." They made a fire and broiled a portion, and prepared more to be taken with them. At night they renewed their march.

Twenty days after they left Detroit they came in sight of the Ohio, about fifty miles above the Falls. They made a raft and started for the (then) village of Louisville. Before they had floated half way their raft was dashed to pieces, and with difficulty they swam to the Kentucky shore, losing all the guns, blankets, etc. They struck out through the woods and soon reached Harrodsburg.

When the party which had taken Holman back to Wa-puc-ca-nat-ta arrived there, much dissatisfaction was manifested in regard to his release from the sentence of death pronounced against him. A new council was held, and the party for acquittal prevailed by a majority of one. About three years and a half after Holman was taken prisoner, a cessation of hostilities was had. The Indians were much reduced by the previous war. Holman offered, if they would give him a companion who knew the way, to go to the falls of the Ohio, and solicit the assistance of a rich uncle in securing them supplies. The necessities of the Indians induced them to accept his proposition, and with another prisoner and a young warrior he set out. They struck the Ohio above Louisville, swam the river, and went to Louisville. General Clark, who was in command at that place, ransomed the two captives for a quantity of powder, lead, salt, etc., and Holman arrived at his home three days after the return of Rue.

The hardships to which Rue had been exposed caused him to contract the rheumatism, which afflicted him at times during the remainder of his life. For many years after Rue and Holman removed to Wayne county their old Indian relatives paid them annual visits, and were always received with welcomes and entertained with the greatest show of hospitality. ARONZON.

THE FIRST TRIAL HELD IN SANDUSKY COUNTY.

MR. EDITOR:—The first time I was at Lower Sandusky, (now Fremont,) I attended the first Court of Common Pleas ever held in Sandusky county, May 2, 1824. And the first trial on the docket was one brought by a Seneca Indian, by his next friend, a fourth breed Indian, and local Methodist preacher, by the name of Montgomery. The suit was brought to prove the identity and ownership of an Indian pony, replevied,—a horse which Montgomery, acting for the Seneca Indian, found, after it had strayed from its rightful owner, in the possession of a white man, living some four miles west of the Seneca Reservation. As the white man laid claim to the pony, and was not willing to give it up, Montgomery had to replevy it and then bring proof into Court to establish the fact that it belonged to the Seneca Indian.

After the Court was opened in the usual form, on Monday, the 2d day of May, 1824, the trial for the ownership of the Indian pony was called. Lawyer Cook, of Sandusky city, acted as attorney for the Seneca Indian. And ex-Judge Parish, from Columbus, acted as attorney for the white man. The Indian's statement was, that he had raised the pony from a colt; and having been out a few miles beyond where the white man lived, on a hunting excursion, the pony left him and was making its way home to the Seneca Reserve, but was stopped on its way and taken up by the white man, who, upon the Indian finding the pony, refused to give it up, which was the cause of its being replevied, as before stated. The white man in justification of his conduct in refusing to give up the horse, claimed that he had raised him from a colt.

To prove that the horse was raised by the Indian, there were four Seneca Indians brought into Court as witnesses. The first called was George, the chief. He was at the time a tall, portly, good looking Indian, full six feet two inches in height, and straight as an arrow, although, at the time, said to be 75 years old. I frequently saw his old father, whose hair was as white as wool. He was said to be 100 years old. He was born and raised at or near Cayuga Lake, in the State of New York, and was generally known and called Cayuga George. He would frequently come down to town, attended by half a dozen young, beautiful, well-featured squaws, who, like guardian angels, would watch over him while he lay "cockcoosy" on Yankee rum, at the end of Olmstead's store. Beside George, the Seneca chief, there were three other Seneca Indians brought into Court, and these Indian witnesses must be sworn. The question naturally arose, by what rule or form are wild, untutored, savage Indians, to be qualified to tell the truth. The presiding Judge, Lane, had the Indians brought forward, and through an Indian interpreter, put the following question to George, the chief:

"Do you believe the Great Spirit will punish you if you tell a lie about the horse?"

George, the chief, replied in his own Seneca language, to the interpreter, quickly and with great animation.

"What does he say?" asked the Judge of the interpreter.

"He says," replied the interprer, "that he would not tell a lie for any man's horse."

Judge Lane then ordered them, through the interpreter, to hold up their right hands, and he put the following oath to them: "You, and each of you, do believe that the Great Spirit will punish you,—each one, if you tell a lie about the ownership of the horse now in dispute between the Indian and white man.

The Indians were then questioned by Judge Lane, through the interpreter, concerning what they knew about the pony, commencing with George, the chief. Their statement was, one by one, that the Seneca Indian who claimed the horse, had raised the horse from a colt, and that he was three years old the last spring.

The white man brought four white men as witnesses into court, who testified that the white man, who claimed the horse, had raised him from a colt, and that he was four years old the last spring.

Here then was a difference in the testimony given by the two contening parties, of one year, concerning the age of the horse. To aid the jury in judging which party was right, Judge Lane ordered the Sheriff to seek out and find three men, who professed to know the age of a horse by examining his mouth. The Sheriff, agreeably to the Judge's order, sought and found three men having the requisite qualifications. The men thus chosen proceeded to examine the mouth of the horse, after which they came into court and were sworn and stated on oath that the horse was but three years old that present spring. After hearing the testimony of these three men, taken together with that of the Indians, who all testified that the pony was but three years old, I came directly to the conclusion that the jury would have no trouble in giving up the horse to the proper owner, the Seneca Indian; but, in thus judging, I was mistaken, for the jury suffered themselves to be led astray by readings and pleadings of ex-Judge Parish, from Columbus, who plead for the white man, and awarded the horse to him. After the return of the verdict by the jury all the Indians present showed their disapprobation and resentment, and the white men attending court, to pacify the Indians, made up a purse of fifteen dollars and bought the pony of the white man and gave it to the right owner, the Seneca Indian, and that satisfied the Indians.

So much for the uncertainty of law.

ROBERT A. SHERRARD.

Sugar Hill, Jefferson county. Ohio.

—[Fremont Journal.

THE FIRST COURT OF OHIO AND ITS DISTINGUISHED LAWYERS.

The memories of the wise and brave men who laid broad and deep the foundations of our great State should be revered and cherished by the present generation, who enjoy the rich fruits of their labors. Senator Woodbridge said of them, that they laid the foundation stone of the State, and it may truly be said the first settlement at Marietta was the Plymouth Rock of the great West.

The first court ever held northwest of the river Ohio, under the forms of civilized jurisprudence, was opened at Campus Martius (Marietta) Sept. 2, 1788. The following account of the ceremony is copied from the Marietta Intelligencer of March 10, 1843:

It will be remembered that on the 7th of April, 1788, General Rufus Putnam, with forty-seven men, had landed and commenced the first permanent settlement in what is now the State of Ohio. General Harmer, with his regulars, occupied Fort Harmer. Governor St. Clair, and also Samuel H. Parson and James M. Varnum, Judges of the Supreme Court, arrived in July. The Governor and Judges had been employed from their arrival in examining and adopting such of the statutes of the States as, in their opinion, would be appropriate to the situation of the new colony. The Governor had made appointments of civil officers for the administration of justice, and to carry into effect the laws adopted. Some idea may be obtained of the character of the early settlers of Ohio by describing the order with which this important event, the establishment of civil authority and the laws, was conducted. From a manuscript, written by an eye-witness, now in my possession, I have obtained the substance of the following.

The procession was formed at the Point (where most of the settlers resided) in the following order:

1. The High Sheriff with his drawn sword; 2. The citizens; 3. The officers of the garrison at Fort Harmer; 4. The members of the bar; 5. The Supreme Judges; 6. The Governor and clergymen; 7. The newly appointed Judges of the Court of Common Pleas, Generals Rufus Putnam and Benjamin Tupper.

They marched up a path that had been cut and cleared through the forest to Campus Martius Hall, (stockade) when the whole countermarched, and Judge Putnam and Tupper took their seats. The clergyman, Reverend Dr. Cutler, then invoked the Divine blessing. The Sheriff, Colonel Ebenezer Sprout, (one of nature's nobles) proclaimed with solemn "O yez! O yez!" that a court for the administration of even-handed justice to the poor and the rich, to the guilty and the innocent, without respect to persons, none to be punished without a trial by their peers, and then in pursuance of the law and the evidence of the case." Although the scene was exhibited thus early in the settlement of the State, few ever equalled it in the dignity and exalted character of its principal participants. Many of them belonged to the his-

tory of our country in the darkest as well as the most splendid days of the revolutionary war. To witness this spectacle a large body of Indians were collected from the most powerful tribes then occupying almost the entire West. They had assembled for the purpose of making a treaty. Whether any of them entered the hall of justice, or what were their expressions, we are not told.

The members of the bar who practiced in that court were men of great legal attainments. Among them were the following, with the date of their admission: Paul Fearing, September, 1788; Return J. Meigs, 1789; Dudley Odin, 1791; Matthew Backus, 1793; William Littel, 1797; Solomon Sibley, 1797; David Putnam, 1798; Edwin Putnam, 1799; Wyllis Silliman, 1801; Philomon Beecher, 1802; Lewis Cass, 1803; Charles Hammond, 1804; Wm. Woodbridge, 1804.

Jacob Barnet was also one of the early practitioners of the Washington county bar, and subsequently Thomas Ewing. They nearly all achieved a national reputation, and compare favorably with the members of any other bar in the Union. —[Cincinnati Gazette.

HISTORICAL SKETCHES OF DANBURY TOWNSHIP.

BY A. H. AGARD.

PERIOD BEFORE THE WAR OF 1812.

What is now known as Danbury Township, situated in Ottawa County, was not organized as a township until some years after the war of 1812. The Hon. Zalmon Wildman and E. W. Bull, who were land holders on the Peninsula, as the land situated between the Bay and the Lake and attached to the main land by a narrow neck near the Portage river was called, and some of the early settlers were from Danbury, Ct., and transferred to their new and wild home in the West the name of their native township. It originally embraced the broad strip of land situated on the north of Sandusky Bay to the west of its outlet, and was bounded on the east, north and west by the Lake, and was connected to the main land by a narrow neck on the West. The western boundary of the Firelands passed through a little to the east of the west line of this township, cutting off a narrow strip of irregular width which belonged to the U. S. lands on the west; but as now organized, Danbury extends only to the western line of the Firelands. The township originally embraced a territory about seven and one-half miles extending from Marblehead west, by an average width of four miles, and a width between extreme points of six miles, giving an area of something less than thirty square miles.

So much of the original township as was situated west of "The Harbors" and north of the old river bed, when the "grape fever" came up, assumed the dignity of an island, sailed out from under the control of the maternal Danbury and, upon a basis

of some 600 acres of dry land and a profusion of water area, set up township business on her own hook under the cognomen of Catawba Island. She, however, very prudently keeps herself anchored to the main land by a bridge which stretches over the head of West Harbor and, like a dutiful child, respects her maternity, and is on good terms at the old Homestead.

GEOLOGY—FACE OF THE COUNTRY, ETC.

The eastern portion of the township is underlaid by a somewhat elevated table of stratified lime rock, filled with fossils belonging to the Devonian Age, which resembles the limerock at Sandusky and on Kelley's Island. Over several hundred acres along the centre of the east part of the township, known as the "prairie," the eroded rock comes to the surface, which is almost destitute of soil and produces a sparse and almost worthless vegetation, save during the rains of the Spring, when it furnishes some early food for stock. It is destitute of timber except near the borders and in some basins which hold the water, and along the seams of the rock, where little groves and thickets flourish and furnish protection from the sun, which in the Summer pours down upon the arid rocks, scorching everything like the heat of an oven. In some parts this mesa used to produce a wild grass with rich seeds, upon which the deer and wild geese used to fatten, and the early settlers used to find great advantage in driving their domestic animals to feed upon the same.

While riding over these rocky plains during a gentle rain one day in July, I was every now and then regaled by the delicious odors of some fragrant plant. By a little investigation I learned that in the most barren places, where the cherty rock was broken into a flinty gravel, there grew thick-set beds of a little mint-like plant, having a labiate flower which was so fragrant in the rain as to perfume the air. Afterward, when I heard the early settlers speak enthusiastically of the abundance and deliciousness of the honey which the Indians used to procure on the Peninsula, I wondered if this little plant had not had something to do in furnishing it; and, if so, we have near us a repetition of the conditions which furnished the Athenians the classical honey Hymettus; for, as will be remembered, this fragrant honey was gathered from a species of *monardia* which grew in great profusion about the marble quarries of Attica.

The shore slopes of this rocky mesa have a rich soil, are well watered —used to be covered with heavy timber, but now give growth to some of our most productive vineyards. In passing to the west of this rocky table, the observer as he crosses lots No. 14 and 15 drops down over a rugged and half-concealed outcrop of magnesian limerock, containing few and imperfect fossils, and comes out upon a stretch of level country, with a rich loamy soil and a heavy argillaceous understratum, containing water-worn pebbles. This low land extends across the Peninsula and stretches away to the westward of Sandusky Bay, and was probably once the bottom of a shallow part of the lake when the table to the east was a low, rocky island. Where uncultivated, it is now covered with a heavy growth of black walnut, hickory, elm, basswood, and a luxuriant undergrowth of weeds and bushes. The soil is rich, but hard to work until properly underdrained, when it produces very fine crops. It is but a few feet above the level of the lake, and covers a depression in the rock-surface, which extends from the last western outcrop of the fossiliferous rock east of the anti-clinal

axis, westward along the shore to where the magnesian limerock of the Put-in-Bay formation comes to the surface, which is first seen on the farm belonging to E. Lockwood, on the point of land between the Harbors, and it underlies all of Catawba Island township, and forms bold bluffs along the shore on the north and west. It is a stratified rock, which furnishes but meager evidence of organic life, and has not yet been found valuable for lime or building purposes. At the extreme northern end of Catawba Island there is an outcrop from under this formation of an argillaceous limerock which, when properly selected and prepared, makes a valuable hydraulic lime. Hydraulic cement was extensively manufactured at Ottawa City a few years since; but for some reason, probably from carelessness in the manufacture, it got a bad reputation in the market, the works were abandoned, and the city has gone into dilapidation. The early settlers speak of the "meadow," referring to a point of low rich land of some six hundred acres which used to extend from the Peninsula east toward Cedar Point. It was sparsely covered with timber, and produced an abundance of grass, which furnished hay for the early settlers. Cherries, plums, wild fruits and berries of a very superior quality grew here in such profusion that the pioneers could use but a small part of them. The "meadow," for its pasture, its hay and fruits was of great value to the first settlers, and is remembered by them as a sort of Eden on the borders of the wilderness. Nothing now remains of it but Spit Island, a little sand ridge of a few acres, upon which nothing grows but a few water willows; the surf breaks over it, and the gulls and waterfowls gather around. It nas been washed into the lake. This process of eroding is constantly going on when there is not a rocky protection, and even the limerock yields slowly to the constant, teasing action of the water, aided by the frosts of winter. This crumbling away of the land gives the irregularities of the shore line. The drift shores have been carried away, and indentations and bays formed, while the rocky shores stand out in bold headlands.

In this connection, it is apropos to mention a curious freak of the Portage river, which now discharges its waters into the Lake at Port Clinton, but at a time comparatively not very remote used to reach the lake thro' the Harbors, some eight miles to the east of the present outlet. Indeed, the Harbors are but the old bed of the Portage river. It is within the recollection of persons now living that the head of West Harbor extended inland up to near Port Clinton, and at that time there were several acres of heavily timbered land between this estuary and the lake on the north. The remains of the roots of large trees are now to be seen under the shallow water at some distance from shore. At an earlier period the shore line from Catawba Island west was some distance north of the present shore, the lake having made encroachments upon the land, and the place whereon Port Clinton now stands was inland, and the Portage River, deflected to the east by the high lands along the shore, made an elbow in its course and found its way to the lake to the east of the rocky bluffs of Catawba Island; first through the East Harbor, and, later, through the West Harbor, which has yet quite a channel. The two Harbors are separated near their outlets into the lake by several hundred acres of high rocky land; but back of this, farther inland, they are connected by a low, wet "swail," which Mr. E. Lockwood has determined to be the fill of an old river bed. By the era-

sion of the shore west of the rocks of Catawba Island, the river was at last reached at Port Clinton, where it has since had its outlet into the lake, but now threatens to find egress at a point still to the west of the present mouth. The channel into the Harbors is slowly filling up. All of this transpired before the historic period, and is known only by the very plain evidences left by the changes. Since the lake thus stole some eight or ten miles of the Portage river, Danbury has had no stream worthy of mention. Meadow Brook is a small stream on the southern shore, and is the outlet into the Bay from a little laguna, and is of no importance except that it was in the timber near its banks that the skirmish with the Indians took place on Sept. 29, 1812. (For an account of this first fight with the Indians within the boundaries of the State in the war of 1812 see Pioneer for May 1859, page 37.)

MOUNDS AND ANCIENT REMAINS.

There are on the Peninsula several old earth-works and stone mounds, which do not differ materially from similar remains found on the islands in the lake and through the State. One, from its size, manner of construction and location is worthy of mention. On the north-west of Catawba Island, to the west of More's Dock, and thus not within the boundaries of the Firelands; but within the limits of old Danbury, stands a bold promontory connected by a narrow neck of low land to the Island. From this attachment it swells out to embrace an area of some acres, and rises abruptly at some points, until its bold cliffs overlook the lake to the west and north at an elevation of about fifty feet. On the summit of this rocky elevation and near the edge of the promontory, stands the ruins of a circular mound of stone. The point is known as Sugar Rock and is covered with timber, the sugar maple being abundant. A rank undergrowth of bushes and weeds cover the ground and hide the rocky surface and until quite recently it was esteemed the very paradise of snakes, and one can almost believe that it was built to order as a place for Indian "pow wows," and we probably have on its summit the remains of a something which was important in their history.

The mound is of smallish stone, appearing as though thrown together without being masoned, built in a circular form and is about sixty-five feet through the base and fifteen feet high. Upon the edge there seems to have been a wall, while the center was surmounted by a cone of small stones, and between the cone and the wall there was a beaten walk about twelve feet in width running from the entrance on the east, entirely around the cone. The base of the cone was some thirty feet through and old settlers state that when first discovered it was in better preservation than it is now and that there was another walk around it above the one now seen and that the top was a flat, beaten surface, thus forming a sort of truncated cone with terraced sides. A cedar stump was standing when I visited the mound which I was told was from a tree which grew from the side of the cone in the upper terrace. One inch of this wood counted twenty-five annular growths and the stump was more than one foot in diameter. West of this mound there are, situated on an elevated, rocky part of the shore, a little back from the water, two similar mounds of stone; but no evidences of the terraces are seen. They are situated near a place called the "Camp Ground." The place was so named from the fact that "camp meetings" were held there many years ago. Some years after the

war the Rev. S. M. Beatty was doing missionary work in that part of the country and one day while riding through this lovely little nook he was struck with the idea that the place had been made up as if by special design for a "camp meeting ground," and thus feeling called upon to improve it he appointed and held one of those old-time meetings there, and a more lovely place for those romantic religious gatherings, once so popular, could scarcely be found. A pioneer who was present, relates the following incident, which is sufficiently illustrative of those early days to be recorded. Pastoral visits in old times were more general than they are now and were made to all and without observing ceremony. The "preacher" was expected to "call around" and see all the settlers. In this case it fell in the Rev. S. M. Beatty's way to call upon a family, which, in the language of the informant, belonged to the "woods breed." After a few friendly salutations he introduced the subject of his visit by asking the good woman of the house and the mother of sundry athletic "woodsy" children, if she "trained her children up in the fear of the Lord?" "Yes," she replied promptly, but with the air of not feeling quite at home upon the subject, "I trains 'em to fear the Lord and the Devil and all sich like; for a body never knows whose hands they might git into."

The first birth and the first marriage on the Peninsula were probably a little irregular as the following incident, which I have from one who resided there at the time, will serve to illustrate:

In the early times in Danbury, before the war of 1812, the settlement on the Bay shore, just back of Johnson's Island (then Bull's Island), was made headquarters by a dealer in cattle, &c., between the South and Malden, by the name of Patterson. Among other things in his line—for he bought and sold all manner of things whereby he could put money in his pocket—he brought from Kentucky a girl of marriageable years and rather attractive features. This piece of property—for such he seems to have deemed her—he *sold* to a man on the Peninsula, by the name of Stacey, for a wife. At this time there was neither a clergyman nor a magistrate nearer than the "far East," and thus getting married in the regular way was not an easy matter. This, however, did not greatly trouble the young couple, for, cutting all "red tape" arrangements, they commenced "house keeping" without the benefit of the clergy, and lived in this way until two little Staceys had come to solemnize the arrangement.

Sometime during the year 1811, Major Spafford made a visit to the settlers at the "Orchards," on the Peninsula, while on his way from Cleveland to the Maumee. Learning of the condition of things at Stacey's cabin, the Major's New England sense of propriety was greatly shocked. He felt much grieved that young Danbury should disgrace its puritanical old god-mother by such irregularities, and immediately visited the Staceys for the purpose of getting things upon a more wholesome basis. The clever couple owned the Major's soft impeachment, but were unable to see how the past was to be undone, nor could they just then devise means to make it different for the future. The Major seems to have been a man for expedients. He asked them to stand up and, with the two "advents" in the family as witnesses, pronounced them man and wife.

Some one afterwards asked the Major if he thought the marriage regular. He replied that he did not, but it was the best he could do, and he believed it bettered the matter somewhat, as the parties themselves

seemed to think it all right and now believed themselves married.

This was among the first and probably the first wedding on the Fire Lands.

EARLY SETTLERS.

Mr. Epaphrodites W. Bull, of Danbury, Ct., in 1808 came into possession of so much of the Peninsula as was situated east of Meadow Brook, including the island in Sandusky Bay afterward known as Bull's Island. He arranged with Mr. Benejah Wolcott, an old native of Danbury, Ct., but then residing in the city of New York, to make a pioneer settlement on his lands; and a party consisting of Mr. and Mrs. Wolcott, two daughters, one son and two hired men, named respectively Osborn and Bishop, left Danbury, Conn., in a sleigh for their new home in the then far West, on the 13th of February, 1809, and arrived in Cleveland some time in March following. The Lake was ice-bound, and the family could not proceed further, but Mr. W. and the hired men started for the Peninsula by land, to prepare quarters for the family, and make a garden, etc. It is stated that the Springs were then much earlier on the Peninsula than on the main land. Somewhere about the first of May, the family, with Mr. Wolcott, who had returned for them, left Cleveland, then something less than a small village, on board the "Sally of Cuyahoga," a small schooner, to complete the remaining part of their journey. They met a severe storm and came near all being lost; but made port at the mouth of Black River and awaited calmer waters, when they again put to sea, and arrived in Sandusky Bay on the night of the 8th of May, and on the next day, a beautifully calm and pleasant day, they landed at what was then known as the "Middle Orchard," a little to the east of where now stands Fox's Dock.

At that time there were three French-Indian orchards on the Bay shore, known as the east, middle and west orchards. The East Orchard was owned by an Indian named Notaway, who afterward sold his claim to Bull, and the west orchard was claimed by a Frenchman named Stacey. Wolcott and his family were the first American settlers in Danbury. Joseph Ramsdell, who in 1811 settled with his family on a point of land between the Two Harbors, was on the Peninsula with a party of surveyors in 1806, and while there, saw the wonderful eclipse of that year. By arrangement, Mr. Bull followed Mr. Wolcott on the following year. The exact order of the coming of the later settlers is not agreed upon by the survivors. In the Spring of 1810 a man named Lee settled with his family at a place now known as Hartshorn's. Bull, Saunders, and a man called Major Parsons came during the year.

In April, 1811, Joseph Rumsdell and wife with four sons, named respectively John, Jacob, Horace and Valentine, with Abiathar Sherley and wife, the latter a Ramsdell, left Oswego, New York, in an open boat for the Peninsula. They were detained two weeks by ice at Black Rock, and arrived at the Harbors in June. A daughter of Abiathar Sherley's was the first child born among the settlers. She is now Mrs. Atwood, and lives at Huron, Erie Co., Ohio. There were no deaths among the settlers in Danbury before the war of 1812. They had no schools, no meetings, and no township organization. A missionary once called at Mr. Wolcott's, but did not hold a meeting.

Several other families settled in Danbury before the war, but I have not their names in the order of their coming. Of those mentioned, Mr. Wolcott died on the Peninsula in

1832. The eldest daughter married Truman Pettibone in 1814. They were married in Cleveland by Esq. Kingsbury, and settled in Danbury, where he died July 22, 1830. An extended notice of his life will be made in the history of the township after the war. His widow still lives in Danbury, and to her and to her sister I am indebted for much of the early history of the township. She was born at Catskill, New York, February 12, 1796, and when I visited her, three years since, was hale and hearty for a woman of her age, and related the incidents of her pioneer life with an enthusiasm that was remarkable. She said the change from life in the city of New York to the Peninsula was full of contrasts, and not all of them pleasant at first. She would admit that she was lonesome, and sometimes not a little homesick. She said their house in Danbury in those days was like a tavern. Everybody came there to stay. Their mother was also somewhat homesick, and was always glad to see people from the East. She said she was always delighted to see even a dog if he came from the East. The Indians visited them often, and were always friendly until after the murder of Buel and Gibbs near Ogontz Place, as Sandusky was then called. Before the murder they were friendly, and she thought well of them; but afterward they seemed changed in their appearance and behavior, and they were afraid of them. The land was wonderfully fertile, and produced in abundance everything they needed, and from the old orchards they had a great abundance of apples, peaches, cherries and plums, and wild berries were plenty and very fine. The Indians brought them a very superior quality of honey and beeswax for their candles. During the first year they soaked corn in the ear and shaved it off the cob with a jointer for their bread, and after that they went with boats to River Raisen or to Newburgh to get milling done.

When Mr. Wolcott came to Danbury there were two men there, the Frenchman named Stacey, and a man with a drove of cattle from the South by the name of Patterson. He soon left. Sometime in 1811 three men settled on Bull's Island, in Sandusky Bay. Colonel P. P. Ferry kept the Custom House on the west end of the island, and a man named Saunders kept a little store of goods at the same place, and another man named James Stevens, Esq., also lived there. It was in contemplation to build a town on the island, and with that view it either had been or soon was to be surveyed into lots. A man by the name of B. Thompson slaughtered large numbers of hogs on the Peninsula which he drove there from the South, and he boarded with a man named Bullock.

Mr. W. B. Smith, Esq., now living in Sandusky, informs me that P. P. Ferry did not reside on the island, but that the Custom House was on the main land to the west of the island. He was himself on the island during the Summer before the war, and saw Stevens and Saunders there. He says James Stevens, who was an uncle of Charles Waterbury, now of this city, had purchased some part of Bull's Island, and had a field of very heavy wheat growing on the west side of the island, which was never harvested. He was an old bachelor, and was East trying to get up a colony to settle Danbury when the war broke out. He never returned, but married and settled in Connecticut. He died some years after, leaving two daughters, who are now residing in New York City, the only representatives of the family.

Mr. Wolcott's second daughter was born at Danbury, Ct., Dec. 17, 1798. Married Joseph Ramsdell in

November, 1817. They moved from Danbury, Ohio, in 1825 to Bloomingville, where Mr. R. died, and where the widow now lives in the enjoyment of good health and vigor. Her statements correspond very nearly with those of her sister's.

One incident in her life on the Peninsula is worthy of mention, and although she objected to its being told me by her daughter, fearing it would get into print, I think she will pardon me for giving it here, as it will serve to illustrate better than any words of mine can, the modes of pioneer life. In these days it would be styled seeking pleasure under difficulties.

As will be remembered by many yet living in Sandusky, Mr. Wolcott was at home with the violin, and many were the nights that he drew from it the strains that served to keep the young folks awake until the dawn purpled the east, when the most enthusiastic one would exclaim, "Well, we *must* go." (See the address of Hon. J. M. Root, Pioneer for June, 1863, page 21.)

In 1815 Cleveland had grown to be a "smart little burgh," and the Clevelanders thought they would add to their importance, and at the same time fire up their patriotism by celebrating the first Fourth of July after the declaration of peace by holding an old-fashioned Independence ball. Everything was at hand but the music. Mr. Wolcott's fame had reached as far as the mouth of the Cuyahoga, and he was at once ordered to put in an appearance on the occasion. He never disobeyed these orders, and at once set about his preparations for the journey, and invited his youngest daughter to share the pleasures of the journey. She, nothing loth to have a little patriotic fun with the Cleveland belles and beaux, gave her best "gown" a few extra touches and was ready. The old man took his violin under his arm and mounted one horse. She mounted another, and riding down to "the meadow" at the east point of the Peninsula, west of Cedar Point, they took a canoe and, swimming their horses behind them across the mouth of the Bay, over to the Point, and then, mounting their horses, again took the trail through the woods, via Huron, for Cleveland, swimming the streams as they came to them, and making the best of their way in true pioneer style. As the daughter finished the story, the old lady added, with a triumphant twinkle of the eye, "the girls did not wear hoops in my time." What would "the belle of the season" say in our time of a horse-back ride of seventy miles through an unbroken forest, along an Indian trail, to attend a ball? No "love of a hat," no point lace, no white nor delicately tinted gloves, no crinoline, no trail but such as the Indians used, no chignon to catch on the bushes, no big house of a trunk; nothing but the personal adornments which nature gave, and a big, resolute heart, that never said: "I can't, I am *so* delicate."

When and where Joseph Ramsdell died I do not know. Valentine, the youngest son, was killed in the fight with the Indians while piloting the party of soldiers on the Peninsula. For an account of this first fight with the Indians in Ohio in the war of 1812 see Hon. J. R. Giddings' "Remembrances" in the Pioneer for May, 1859, page 37. Jacob Ramsdell died in Danbury, and John died in Bloomingville. Horace Ramsdell still survives, and resides at Bloomingville, where he has lived for many years. His recollections of the early days are prettly clear, but he is strongly impressed with the idea that he does not know anything worth "putting in print."

After speaking of their journey to Ohio in an open boat from Oswego,

he went on to say: "We at last made the Harbors and landed there. We first built down on the shore of West Harbor. It don't look there now as it did then. It was very pleasant. If the water had been as high there then as it is now, would never have settled there. It was all good tillable land where it is water now. There were two orchards over at the Bay, one called the Notaway orchard and the other Wolcott's. The latter bought his orchard of a big, raw-boned Indian called Hubbell, who went to Upper Sandusky. We did not build a boat before the war, but during the war did build one down at Grand River, called the "Eliza"—a schooner of thirty tons. We were coming from Buffalo at the time of the battle on the lake, and met the "Lawrence." We sighted her and could not avoid meeting, but felt that we would rather be somewhere else, for we did not know what was coming. With a glass we saw that it was one of the brigs. We were hailed by her and told that we had nothing to fear, as they had "swept the lakes." This was too good news to keep, and we put into Cleveland and gave them the news of the victory half an hour before the arrival of the mail. We discharged our freight of salt there, and took on oats and provisions for the army and set sail for Detroit. We touched at Put-in-Bay, and saw the British prisoners; also saw Commodore Barclay, and saw the surgeons dress his arm. He had lost his left arm in the battle of Trafalgar, under Nelson, and in this action he lost the right arm. The doctor put a plaster on the wound. I saw there, in chains, some of the Indians who had been taken on to the British ships as sharp-shooters. As soon as the action commenced they skulked behind anything they could find, and never shot a gun.

"We came to Danbury in our own boat; I think it was called the Swan. We built it at Sodus Bay. We built a block-house over near Wolcott's. It stood near where Fox's Dock is now—a little to the east. I worked a good many days on it. It was a good building, but was never of any use.

"When the settlers fled from the Peninsula in 1812, we took some of them down the shore to Vermillion and elsewhere in our boat. After this was done, we took our boat and Capt. Austin's and went back to the Orchards to bring away some hemp. Thompson & Co., of Buffalo, had stored there 50 tons of hemp, which they had brought from Delaware, O., by the way of Fremont; while there, and just as we were leaving, some soldiers landed at the orchards. They were from Huron, and came in a scow to get fruit, &c. They set one man, named Guy, as a sentinel to keep watch while the others gathered apples. He stuck his gun into the ground by the bayonet, and climbed into an apple tree from the fence. As I passed him, going to the boat, I told him he was a pretty guard; if there were any Indians about there, they would steal his gun and shoot him before he knew it. He swore he was not afraid; he could get his gun before an Indian could. We started away with the hemp and left the soldiers there, and Guy still in the tree near the water. I was rowing the boat, and when only a few rods away, as I sat looking toward the orchard, I saw a puff of smoke, heard the report of a gun, and saw the soldiers drop from the trees as though they all had been shot, and throwing their things hither and thither, they made for their boat. Guy fell, shot through the forehead, and it was said that he was shot with the charge in his own gun, and by an Indian.

At this time there were on the Peninsula some back woods despera-

does with a party of Indians. La Fleur from Put-in-Bay, an old man and his son from Cunningham's Island, named Jelley and an ugly Frenchman named Lauronge. Probably one of this party shot Guy. They had a fight among themselves about this time, young Jelly was killed and the old man Jelly was found by a party of whites some days after, scalped, and his head plastered up with some bruised weeds, doing well. They took him to Huron where he killed himself by over eating, having lived 17 days after being scalped.

The night before Guy was shot, Sergeant Allen and one St. John from Black Rock and a Mr. Lee who lived on the Peninsula, hired Mr. John Ramsdell with one of the boats to go over to Cunningham's Island to strip a government vessel which had gone ashore there. They left in the morning and returned toward night and knew nothing of what had happened at the Orchards during the day. As they reached the Peninsula on the east, Putney and Allen got out of the boat and said they would walk across the meadow and shoot a pig and have it dressed and cooked over at the Block house by the time the rest of the party rowed the boat around to the landing. After a while they heard the report of a gun and Mr. Ramsdell in the boat said, "there! they have killed the pig." Soon they heard a yell for the boat to come to their relief. Putney had found Guy's dead body under the apple tree and as he stood looking at it, he too was shot down. Allen got into the boat and it was put off shore. The bodies lay there and the hogs destroyed them, as they did those of the Frenchman and Indians killed in their own fight.

The bodies of the soldiers killed in the skirmish were not buried for two years. I picked up all the bones I could find and buried them myself. Old lawyer Stevens, as he was called, was custom house officer on the Peninsula before the war, and not Col. Ferry as some state.

Taxes before the war were paid at Cleveland—sent the money to a man named Bennett. They did not come to collect them, did not get enough to pay for ferrying across the Bay. A man named Leach carried the mail from Cleveland via Huron to Maumee.

At the time of the skirmish the soldiers did not retreat to the Block house, as has been stated; but to a house built near the spring to the west of Fox's dock. The Block house had been burned before the skirmish.

In the fall of 1811 a man by the name of Esq. McDonalds, teamed 50 barrels of whisky and 20 kegs of butter from Delaware, Ohio, to Lower Sandusky, now called Fremont. He cut the road himself and was 14 days in getting through. His team was the first, single or double, ever in Fremont. The hemp in the Block house came the same road. At this time there was a little government store at Fremont and only one man lived there. His name was Robinson and he lived on the flats, known there as the fishing grounds. We brought this freight in our boat and it was the first that ever came from Fremont and the first down the Bay."

Respecting Osborn and Bishop, who came with Wolcott; Bishop was killed by the Indians and Osborn settled in Cleveland where he died. E. W. Bull died in Cleveland in October, 1812, from disease brought on by exposure in fleeing from the Peninsula, and from anxiety and overlabor in efforts to raise men to defend the frontier. Mrs. Bull resides in Connecticut, and the following letter from her son to D. H. Pease, Esq., will be read with interest:

"NEW MILFORD, Feb. 8, 1865.

"DEAR SIR:—My mother received a letter from you a short time since, and she requests me to say to you in reply that, although they found orchards of apple, peach and cherry trees, she is unable to say by whom they were planted, or when. The cherry trees had every appearance of being old trees, and they all, the apple, peach and cherry, bore largely. The barks of the apple trees were smooth, and not rough, as they are among us when the tree is neglected and uncared for.

"The *impression* of my mother, derived from her opinion at the time, and when on the spot, as well as from the general opinion of others at the time, is that the orchards were planted by the Canadians, assisted perhaps by the Indians.

"She can give no information concerning any who lived on the Peninsula previous to 1811.

"She says a man by the name of Wolcott went to the Peninsula two years before she did. He is now dead, but two of his daughters may be living, and, if so, they are probably on the Peninsula. One of them married Pettibone, and the other Ramsdell.

"There were no schools and no churches while she was there, and no meetings were held. She has no recollection whatever of anything being said concerning them.

"The above is all the information she can give, and she regrets that she can not add more to the material for your forthcoming history.

"Yours, Respectfully,

"Edw. C. Bull.

"D. H. Pease, Esq., Sec'y, &c."

Up to the time of Hull's surrender the settlers in Danbury, although suffering some privations and enduring the hardships peculiar to early pioneer life, had prospered and had kept heart. They believed they had some advantages over some new settlements, and had faith in the "good time coming." But when the wall of protection which stood between them and their enemies was broken down—when their protector, the American soldier, had been sacrificed, they saw their exposed situation and felt no safety but in flight. This incurred the loss of all they possessed, and brought fatigues, hardships and dangers greater than they had before experienced. At the time of the battle they heard the cannonading at Detroit, and knew that news of the utmost importance would soon reach them. While in this state of anxious apprehension, they saw vessels loaded with men approaching the shore, and supposing them to be British soldiers and Indians, they at once concluded that Hull had been defeated, and that an invading force from Canada was moving in upon the defenceless settlements. Seeing their helpless condition, they were filled with consternation and resolved upon instant flight, as being the only thing they could attempt, and that looked of more than doubtful utility; but to stay was to fall into the hands of what they believed to be a savage and merciless foe. Picking up their clothing and a little bedding, they left everything, even the half-prepared meal on the table, and made a rush for the water's edge for boats, canoes, or anything upon which they could float themselves from impending destruction, and in an hour or two thirteen families were making the best of their way for Ogontz Place, as the landing where Sandusky now stands was at that time called, and Danbury was left without so much as one settler to tell the tale of the *hegira*, or to guard the homes of the exiles; all was abandoned. The day came on gloomy and dark, and a heavy rain began to fall. They reached Ogontz Place in safety, and took shelter in Garrison's old log trading house, the

only building then erected where Sandusky now stands. This had been abandoned, Garrison having gone to Mansfield some months before. The names of the parties thus fleeing to Ogontz Place, as near as I can get them were: Mrs. Benajah Wolcott and family; Charles Peck; E. W. Bull; H. Patch; Saunders, wife with two babes—twins; Major Parsons; Bishop; Joseph Ramsdell; Abiathar Sherley; Dr. Parks, a practicing physician; Herrick; Cooper; Woolsey, a hired man, carpenter and joiner; Col. P. P. Ferry, acting Collector, and Ezra Lee. As soon as they landed, Bishop and Woolsey took two of Bull's children and started by the old Indian trail for Huron, and told the rest to follow. The trail led past the Gibbs place, and when the party reached Pipe Creek they found the stream so swollen by the rain that they could not cross. The two men with the children had succeeded in crossing, and had gone on. Parsons' family were sick, and with Herrick stayed back in the Ogontz cabin. The rain increased, and continued all night; darkness came on; they could not go forward, they dared not go back; for they suspected every bush might hide an Indian, and Bull and his wife were both taken with ague. They cautiously stole into the woods a little to one side of the trail and, without fire or light, in a drenching rain, sat on logs and cared for the sick and the children as best they could, not daring to speak above a whisper, and dreading to step, lest the crackle of a stick should reveal to some lurking savage their whereabouts. Mrs. Saunders held the twins at the breasts all night, fearing that their cries might betray their hiding place. Thus they watched through the weary-footed hours of that dreadful night. What a night was that! Of exposure and suffering, each slow-pacing moment laden with anxious apprehension! Thoughts of homes which they had suffered much to obtain, now abandoned to be destroyed; of friends in the old homes, from which they were yet all unweaned, and the outlook of the future as dark as the night which hung about them.

The dawn at last came, and finding it impossible to continue the journey, they all returned to the Garrison cabin, as the best they could do for the time, not knowing but that they might be running into the jaws of certain destruction. When they got there they found Mr. Wolcott, who had just returned from Cleveland, via Huron. When he reached the Peninsula he found everything abandoned, and immediately rowed over to Ogontz Place, hoping to overtake the settlers before they had gone farther. He brought the news of Hull's surrender, and also informed them that the vessels seen working down shore with men on the previous day were transports taking home our own men paroled by the surrender. This news only put a little farther off the evil day. The settlers well knew that there would be no security for a white man after the Indians had learned of the surrender. They thus took their boats and returned to their homes, and at once set about arrangements for a more deliberate flight. It was three days before the men could return with the two children. At best the settlers could take but little with them. Some of their goods they buried, and secreted others as best they could, knowing that their houses would all be burned. They swam their sheep and cattle over to Cedar Point, and took them with them, though in the driving many were lost. Some of the settlers went to Vermillion, some to Cleveland and others to other places.

In their next flight they went to

the mouth of the Huron River, and found the place deserted. They stayed over night with an old Frenchman named Daveau.

Several of the men after getting their families in secure places, returned to the vicinty and joined in the general effort to defend the frontier.

This nearly completes what I propose to say of Danbury before the war of 1812; not that it exhausts the material, for I have not used half of what is gathered, but because I have filled the space allotted to the article.

In relation to the first custom officer there seems to be some conflict of belief. I presume that the fact is that James Stephens, Esq., was appointed Collector of Customs, and filled the office until he left for the East to raise a colony to settle on lands which he had purchased in Danbury, when I presume Col. P. P. Ferry was made deputy, and as Stevens never returned and Ferry acted, it is not strange that some believe he held the office from the first, as he certainly did afterward. Certain it is that Stevens built a warehouse and made other improvements on the west side of Bull's Island, and contemplated the building up of a commercial centre for the commerce of this region on the shores of Johnson's Island. And the whole, together with the crop which he had growing there, were destroyed by the enemy, and the project of a city never was again revived.

MISCELLANEOUS ARTICLES.

THE MOUND BUILDERS OF OHIO.

It is well known to those engaged in antiquarian researches that Southern Ohio offers one of the richest fields in this country for such investigations. The number, variety and perfection of her mouuds and the profusion of relics which they yield to the explorer, have attracted the attention of antiquaries for many years. Near Marietta stands one of the most perfect mounds in the Western country. While others have been laid open by the ruthless hand of the scientific explorer this has never been disturbed, and except as it has been worn away by the action of the elements, remains to-day as it was left by its builders, the mysterious people who inhabited this fair land so long ago that scarcely a tradition has come down to us to tell us of their customs, character and history.

Many interesting relics have, however, been found around it. About a year ago Mr. John Miles, the sexton in charge of the Mound Cemetery near by, in making an excavation for a grave, came upon one of the most rare and interesting relics which have yet been exhumed. Three and a half feet below the surface, lying upon a bed of broken charcoal, was a mass of silver, weighing three pounds and fifteen ounces. It is flat and irregular in form, no attempt having been made to give it shape. It had, however, been melted, and the situation in which it was

found indicates that the silversmith —if the rude workmen of those primeval times could aspire to the title—was suddenly interrupted in his labor and never found opportunity to resume it.

With the silver were found a large number of arrow heads and remains of pottery. The silver was purchased of Mr. Miles a short time ago by a gentleman of this city, who gave it into the hands of Dr. E. S. Wayne, of the firm of F. E. Suire & Co., and it may now be seen at their establishment on the corner of Fourth and Vine streets. Dr. Wayne, from whom we obtained the above facts, made an assay of a small portion of it, and found it to be pure silver. He says it doubtless came from the Lake Superior region, where it is well known silver is often found in connection with the copper. With the mineral resources of the Superior region the mound builders were evidently acquainted, as is shown by the fact that copper rings, bracelets, and other ornaments are often found in the mounds. As they seem to have had no knowledge of metallurgy, they must have found the copper and worked it up in that condition.

This is, however, with one exception, the only specimen of silver, we believe, ever taken from these mounds, which gives it great interest and value. We understand that the present owner designs to present it to the museum of the McMicken University as soon as that institution comes into existence.—[Cincinnati Gazette, April 1870.

ANCIENT TEMPERANCE PLEDGE.

The following pledge, copied from the history of Litchfield, Ct., is a closely written statement of the evils of liquor drinking and intemperance. The notes added at considerable expense of time and labor, show the kind of men who in 1789 felt impelled as Christians and patriots to sign a pledge of total abstinence from distilled spirits. Only one is known to have proved recreant, and he, the last, signed with an addenda, and his terrible fall and sad fate, should prove a warning to all who are tempted by the intoxicating cup:

"So many are the avenues leading to human misery, that it is impossible to guard them all. Such evils as are produced by our own folly and weakness are within our power to avoid. The immoderate use which the people of this State make of distilled spirits, is undoubtedly an evil of this kind. It is obvious to any person of the smallest observation, that from this pernicious practice follows a train of evils difficult to be enumerated. The morals are corrupted, property is exhausted and health destroyed. And it is most sincerely to be regretted that from a mistaken idea that distilled spirits are necessary to laboring men, to counteract the influence of heat and give relief from severe fatigue, that a most valuable class of citizens have been led to contract a habit of such dangerous tendency. Hence arises the inability to pay public taxes, to discharge private debts and to support and educate families. Seriously considering this subject and the frowns of Divine Providence in denying many families in this part of the country, the means of a comfortable subsistence the present year, by failure of the principal crops of the earth, we think it peculiarly the duty of every good citizen to unite his efforts to reform a practice which leads so many to poverty, distress and ruin. Whereupon we do hereby associate and mutually agree that hereafter we will carry on our business without the use of distilled spirits as an article of refreshment, either for ourselves, or those whom

we employ, and that instead thereof we will serve our workmen with wholesome food and common simple drinks of our own production:

Ephraim Kirby, 1; Timothy Skinner, 2; David Buel, 3; Julius Demming, 4; Benjamin Tallmadge, 5; Uriah Tracy, 6; Ebenezer Marsh, Moses Seymour, 7; Samuel Marsh, 8; James Stone; Samuel Seymour; Daniel Sheldon, 9; Ozias Lewis; Lawrence Wessells, 10; Elijah Wadsworth, 11; Alexander Catlin, 12; Rueben Smith, 13; Lynde Lord, 14; Archibald McNeil, 15; Abraham Bradley, 16; I. Baldwin, Jr., 17; T. Reese, 18; Collier & Adam; Tobias Cleaver; Amos Galpin; Thomas Trowbridge; S. Shethall; Solomon Buel; Bryant Stoddard; Abraham Peck; Frederick Woolcott, 19; Nathaniel Smith, 2d; John Allen, 20; John Welch, 21; Arthur Emmons.

"By necessity and on principle, in consequence of little experiment and much observation, I have effectually adopted and adhered to the salutary plan herein proposed, during several months past, and am still resolved to persevere until convinced that any alteration will be productive of some greater good, whereof at present I have no apprehension, whilst human nature remains the same.

"J. STRONG," 22

"Litchfield, 9th May, 1789."

NOTES.

(1.) Graduate of Yale College, lawyer, at Bunker and 18 other battles in the Revolution; wounded 13 times; appointed by Jefferson, Judge of New Orleans, on the acquisition of Louisiana. The father of late Col. Edmund Kirby, of Jefferson county, N. Y., of U. S. A., of late Major R. M. Kirby, U. S. A., father-in-law of late J. L. Smith and Major Belton, U. S. A., and .grandfather of late Major E. L. Smith, who fell at Molino del Rey, and of the rebel General E. Kirby Smith. (2) A Connecticut General and father of Roger Skinner, M. C., and U. S. Senator from New York, and Richard Skinner, L. L. D., Chief Justice and Governor of Vermont. (3) Father of Judge David Buel, of Troy, a member of the Constitutional Convention of 1821. (4) A distinguished merchant of Litchfield; a Member of the Legislature, 1790–1798. (5) A graduate of Yale College; a Colonel in the Revolution; commanded at the execution of Andre; M. C. from Connecticut, 1800–15. (6) Graduate of Yale; lawyer, Major General, M. C. 3 years; U. S. Senate 11 years from Connecticut. (7) Captain in 5th Connecticut cavalry during the Revolution, and retired at close of war as Major; father of Horatio Seymour, L.L. D., U. S. Senator and candidate for Governor of Vermont; and Henry Seymour, Senator and Canal Commissioner of New York, and grandfather of Origen S. Seymour, M. C. of Connecticut, and Horatio Seymour, Governor of New York. (8) Graduate of Yale College; lawyer in Georgia. (9) A distinguished physician of Connecticut; father of Daniel Sheldon, Jr., Secretary of Legation, who died at Marseilles, France, in 1822. (10) An ancestor of Gen. Henry W. Wessells, U. S. A., who married a daughter of late Captain Chester Griswold, of Utica. (11) A Captian of Dragoons, and distinguished patriot in Revolution; removed to Ohio, became Major General, and after surrender of Gen. Hull, in 1812, he took 1,500 militia into the field, and for a time the command of the N. W. devolved on him. (12) A Captain in the Revolution. (13) A distinguished physician. (14) A Captain in Revolution; Sheriff of Litchfield county, 1772 to 1802. (15) Captain in old French war; great grandfather of Hon. B. McNeil, Inspector of State Prisons of New York. (16) Captain

in the Revolvtion; father of Abraham and Phineas Bradley, Assistant Postmaster General 40 years at Washington. (17) Graduate of Yale; lawyer, legislator. (18) Graduate of New Jersey College, L.L. D.; Chief Justice of Connecticut; distinguished lawyer and founder of Law School at Litchfield. (18) Graduate of Yale; lawyer, Judge of Probate in Connecticut. (20) Lawyer, M. C. from Connecticut, 1797. (21) Graduate of Yale; successful merchant, Senator and Associate Judge of Connecticut. (22) Graduate of Yale College; member of Continental Congress in 1779; member of Connecticut Legislature 31 sessions; Associate Judge 11 years; a State Counsellor, a Selectman of Litchfield 13 years; became a drunkard, whipped his wife, and kicked her out of bed, became a town pauper, was buried at the public expense in 1802, and for many years the place of his burial has been forgotten and unknown. J.

OVER THE LEFT.

The origin of this slangy phrase has been traced by the editor of a quaint and entertaining book entitled "Gleanings from the Harvest Fields of Literature" (Dr. C. C. Bombaugh, of Baltimore) to the records of the Hartford county courts, in the then colony of Connecticut, as follows:

"At a County Court held at Hartford,

"September 4, 1705.

"Whereas James Steel did commence an action against Bevell Waters (both of Hartford) in this court, upon hearing and tryall whereof the court gave judgment against the said Waters (as in justice they think they ought) upon the declaring the said judgment, the said Waters did review to the court in March next, that being granted and entered, the said Waters, as he departed from the table, he said, "God bless you over the left shoulder."

"The court order a record to be made thereof forthwith.

"A true copie; Test.

"Caleb Stanley, Clerk."

At the next court Waters was tried for contempt, for saying the words recited, "so cursing the court," and on verdict fined £5. He asked a review of the court following, which was granted, and pending trial, the court asked counsel of the Rev. Messrs. Woodbridge and Buckingham, the ministers of the Hartfard churches, as to the "common acceptation" of the offensive phrase; their reply constitutes a part of the Record, and is as follows:

"We are of opinion thot those words, said on the other side to be spoken by Bevell Waters, include (1) prophaneness, by using the name of God, that is holy, with such ill words whereto it was joyned; (2) that they carry great contempt in them, arising to the degree of an imprecation or curse, the words of a curse the most contemptible that can ordinarily be used.

"T. Buckingham,
"T. Woodbridge.

"March 7, 1705–6."

The former judgment was affirmed on review.

PIONEER WHISKY.

We are glad to have the testimony of one of the pioneers against the prevalent pernicious notion that in the former time, when the habit of drinking ardent spirits was universal, and when both people and spirits were unsophisticated, they were harmless, and there was no delirium tremens, nor eating out of the coat of the stomach, and men drank regularly, and got jolly upon occasions, and lived to a good old age, and died and went where the good drinkers

go; and that all the destructive effects which we see from drinking are caused by the rogues who fabricate liquors with chemical ingredients, or who use strychnine in distilling, to increase the yield. This enables a man who ruins himself by drink to put the blame on others, and it encourages all to drink by the promise that if they drink pure liquor no harm will come of it. But Judge William Johnston, in his address before the pioneers, testified thus against the pure whisky of the first settlers, which they made for their own drinking, and showed that it always produced the same symptoms as now:

But while I apologize for backwoods whisky, I cannot join in the popular idea that it was a very wholesome, harmless thing compared with the modern article of the same name. On the contrary, to my best recollection, it made men's eyes red, and their noses blue, their children ragged, and their wives wretched, just as it does now.

THE FIRST AMERICAN FLAG.

At the last meeting of the Pennsylvania Horticultural Society, Mr. William J. Canby read a paper on "The First Star Spangled Banner Made in America, and Who Made it." He discovered, in tracing the history of this national emblem, that the first instances when the stars and stripes were unfurled were at the siege of Fort Schuyler, August 17, 1777, and upon an occasion just about one year prior to that time. The brig Nancy was chartered by the Continental Congress to procure military stores in the West Indies, during the latter part of 1775. While at porto Rico, in July of the ensuing year, the information came that the colonies had declared their independence, and with this information came a description of the flag that had been accepted as a national banner. A young man, Captain Thomas Mandenville, set to work to make one, and successfully accomplished it. The flag was unfurled, and saluted with thirteen guns. When the brig Nancy was on her return voyage she was hemmed in by British vessels off Cape May. Her officers succeded in removing all the munitions to the shore, and when the last boat put off, a young man in it, John Hancock, jumped into the sea, swam to the vessel, ran up the shrouds of the mast, and securing the flag, brought it triumphantly to the shore, through a hot fire from the British men-of-war.

The fiast American flag, however, according to the design and approval of Congress, was made by Mrs. Elizabeth Ross. Three of her daughters still live in our vicinity to confirm this fact, founding their belief, not upon what they saw, for it was many years before they were born, but upon what their mother had often told them. A niece of this lady, Mrs. Margaret Boggs, aged 95 years, now lives in Germantown, and is conversant with the fact. The fact is not generally known that to Philadelphia not only belongs the honor of flinging the first star-spangled banner to the breeze, but to a Philadelphia lady belongs the honor of having made it.

The house in which it was made still stands—No. 239 Arch street (the old number being 89)—the last of an old row. It is related that when Congress had decided upon the design, Colonel George Ross and General Washington visited Mrs. Ross and asked her to make it. She said, "I don't know whether I can, but I will try," and directly suggested to the gentlemen that the design was wrong, in that the stars were six cornered, and not five cornered as they should be. This was corrected, she made the flag, Congress accepted

it, and for half a dozen years the lady furnished the Government with all its national flags, having, of course, a large assistance. This lady was also the wife of Claypole, one of the lineal descendants of Oliver Cromwell.

THE OLD BLACK BULL.

Old John Bulkley (grandson of the once famous President Chauncey) was a minister of the Gospel, and one of the best educated men of his day in the Wooden Nutmeg State, when the immortal (or ought to be) Jonathan Trumbull was "round" and in his youth.

Mr. Bulkley was the first settled minister in the town of his adoption, Colchester, Conn. It was with him, as afterward with good old Bro. Jonathan (Governor Trumbull, the bosom friend of General Washington) good to confer on almost any matter, scientific, political, or religious —any subject, in short, wherein common sense and general good to all concerned was the issue. As a philosophical reasoner, casuist, and good counselor, he was "looked to" and abided by.

It so fell out that a congregation in Mr. Bulkley's vicinity got to loggerheads, and were upon the apex of raising "the evil one," instead of a spire to their church, as they proposed, and split upon. The very nearest they could come to a mutual cessation of hostilities was to appoint a committee of three to wait on Mr. Bulkley, state their case, and get him to adjudicate, They waited on the old gentleman, and he listened with great attention to their conflicting grievances.

"It appears to me," said the old gentleman, "that this is a very simple case–a trifling thing to cause you so much vexation."

"So I say," says one of the committee.

"I don't call it a trifling case, Mr. Bulkley," said another.

"No case at all," responded the third.

"It aint, eh?" fiercely answered the first speaker.

"No, it ain't sir?" quite as savagely replied the third.

"It is anything but a trifling case, anyhow," echoed number two, "to expect to raise a minister's salary and that new steeple, too, out of our small congregation."

"There is no danger of raising much out of you, anyhow, Mr. Johnson," spitefully returned number one.

"Gentlemen, if you please"—beseechingly interposed the sage.

"I did not come here, Mr. Bulkley, to quarrel," said one.

"Who started this?" sarcastically answered Mr. Johnson.

"Not me, anyway," number three replied.

"You don't say I did, do you?" says number one.

"Gentlemen—gentlemen!"

"Yes, Mr. Bulkley," says Johnson, "and there old Winkles, too, and here's Deacon Potter, also."

"I am here," stiffly replied the deacon, "and I am sorry the Rev. Mr. Bulkley finds me in such company, sir!"

"Now, gentlemen, brothers, if you please," said Mr. Bulkley, "this is ridiculous"—

"So I say," murmured Mr. Winkles.

"As far as you are concerned, it is ridiculous," said the deacon.

This brought Mr. Winkles up, standing.

"Sir!" he shouted, "sir!"

"But, my dear sirs"—beseechingly said the philosopher.

"Sir!" continued Winkles, "sir! I am too old a man, too good a Christian, Mr. Bulkley, to allow a man, a

mean, despicable toad, like Deacon Potter"—

"Do you call me—me a despicable toad?" menacingly cried the deacon.

"Brethren," said Mr. Bulkley, "if I am to counsel in your difference, I must have no more of this unchristianlike bickering."

"I do not wish to bicker," said Johnson.

"Nor I don't want to, sir," said the deacon, "but when a man calls me a toad—a mean, despicable toad"—

"Well, well, never mind," said Mr. Bulkley, "you are all too much excited now; go home again, and wait patiently; on Sunday evening next I will have prepared and sent to you a written opinion of your case, with a full and free avowal of most wholesome advice for preserving your church from desolation and yourselves from despair."

And the committee left to await his issue.

Now it chanced that Mr. Bulkley had a small farm some distance from the town of Colchester, and found it necessary, the same day he wrote the opinion and advice to the brethren of the disaffected church, to drop a line to his farmer regarding the fixtures of said estate. Having written a long and of course elaborate "essay" to his brethren, he wound up the day's literary exertions with a dispatch to the farmer, and after a reverie to himself he directs the two documents, and the next moment despatches them—but, by a misdirection, sends each to its wrong destination.

On Saturday evening a full and anxious synod of the belligerent churchmen took place in their tabernacle, and punctually, as promised, came a dispatch from the Plato of the time and place—Rev. John Bulkley.

All was quiet and respectful attention. The Moderator took up the document and broke the seal open, and—a pause ensued, while dubious amazement seemed to spread over the features of the worthy President of the meeting.

"Well, Brother Temple, how is it—what does Mr. Bulkley say?" and another pause followed.

"Will the Moderator please proceed?" said another voice.

The Moderator placed the paper on the table, took off his spectacles, wiped the glasses, then his lips—replaced his specs upon his nose, and with a very broad grin, said:

"Brethren, this appears to me to be a very singular letter, to say the least of it!"

"Well, read it, read it," responded the wondering hearers.

"I will."

The Moderator began:

"You will see to the repair of the fences, that they be built up high and strong, and you will take special care of the old black bull!"

There was a general pause; a silent mystery overspread the community; the Moderator dropped the paper to a "rest," and gazed over the top of his glasses for several minutes, nobody saying a word.

"Repair the fences!" muttered the Moderator, at length.

"Build them strong and high!" echoed Deacon Potter.

"Take special care of the old black bull!" growled half the meeting.

Then another pause ensued, and each man eyed his neigebor in mute mystery.

A tall and venerable man now arose from his seat; clearing his voice with a hem, he spoke:

"Brethren, you seem lost in the brief and eloquent words of your learned adviser. To me nothing could be more appropriate to our case. It is just such a profound and applicable reply to us as we should have hoped and looked for from the learned and good man, John Bulkley. The direction to repair the fences is

to take heed in the admission and government of our members; we must guard the church by our Maker's laws, and keep out stray and vicious cattle from the fold! And, above all things, set a trustworthy and vigilant watch over that old black bull, who is the devil, and who has already broken into our inclosures and sought to desolate and lay waste the grounds of our church."

The effect of this interpretation was electrical. All saw and took the force of Mr. Bulkley's cogent advice, and unanimously resolved to be governed by it; hence the old black bull was put *hors de combat*, and the church preserved in union.

The effect produced on the farmer by the communication intended for the church, history does not record.

A PURITAN ANTI-TOBACCO LAW.

The following law was passed by a General Court which sat in Hartford in 1664:

"Fforsmuch as it is observed, that many abuses are crept in, and committed, by frequent taking of tobacko:

"It is ordered by the authority of this Courte, That no person under the age of twenty-one years, nor any other, that hath not already accustomed himself to the use thereof, shall take any tobacko, untill he hath brought a certificate under the hands of some who are approved for knowledge and skill in phisick, that it is usefull for him, and allso, that hee hath received a lycense from the courte, for the same. And for the regulating of those, who either by theire former taking it, have to their own apprehensions, made it necessary to them, or upon due advice are persuaded to the use thereof:

"It is ordered, That no man within this colonye, after the publication hereof, shall take any tobacko, publiquely, in the streett, highwayes, or any barne yards, or upon training dayes, in any open places, under the penalty of six-pence for each offense against this order, in any the particulars thereof, to bee paid without gainesaying upon conviction, by the testimony of one witness, that is without just exception, before any one magistrate. And the constables in the severall townes, are required to make presentment to each particular courte, of such as they doe understand, and can evict to bee transgressors of this order."

A PURITAN THANKSGIVING DANCE.

Whenever or wherever it was that the idea of the sinfulness of dancing arose in New England, I know not; it is a certain fact that at Old Town, at this time, the presence of the minister and his lady was not held to be in the slightest degree incompatible with this amusement. We appeal to the memory of many of our readers, if they or their parents could not recall a time in New England when, in all the large towns, dancing assemblies used to be statedly held, at which the minister and his lady, though never uniting in the dance, always gave an approving attendance, and where all the decorous, respectable old church-members brought their children and stayed themselves to watch an amusement in which they no longer actively partook. No one looked on with a more placid and patronizing smile, as one after another began joining the exercise, which, commencing first with the children and young people, crept gradually upward among the elders. Uncle Bill would insist on leading out Aunt Lois, and the bright color rising to her thin cheeks brought back a fluttering image of what might have been beauty in some fresh, early

day. As to Uncle Eliakim, he jumped, and frisked, and gyrated among the single sisters and maiden aunts, whirling them into the dance as if he had been the little black gentleman himself. With that true spirit of Christian charity which marked all his actions, he invariably chose out the homeliest and most neglected for partners; and thus worthy Aunt Keziah, dear old soul! was for a time made quite prominent by his attentions.

Of course, the dances in those days were of a strictly moral nature. The very thought of one of the round dances of modern times would have sent Lady Lathrop behind her fan in helpless confusion, and exploded my grandmother like a full-charged arsenal of indignation. As it was, she stood with her broad, pleased face radiant with satisfaction, as the wave of joyousness crept higher and higher around her, till the elders, who stood keeping time with their heads and feet, began to tell each other how they had danced with their sweethearts in good old days gone by. And the elder women began to blush and bridle, and to boast of steps that they could take in their youth, till the music finally subdued them, and into the dance they went. "Well, well!" quoth my grandmother, "they're all at it so hearty, I don't see why I shouldn't try it myself;" and into the Virginia reel she went, amid screams of laughter from all the younger members of the population. But I assure you that my grandmother was not a woman to be laughed at, for whatever she once set on foot she "put through" with a sturdy energy befitting a daughter of the Puritans. "Why shouldn't I dance?" she said, when she arrived, red and resplendent, at the bottom of the set. "Didn't Mr. Despondency, and Miss Much-afraid, and Mr. Ready-to-halt all dance together in the 'Pilgrim's Progress?'" And the minister, in his ample, flowing wig, and my lady, in her stiff brocade, gave to my grandmother a solemn twinkle of approbation. As nine o'clock struck, the whole scene dissolved and melted; for what well-regulated village would think of carrying festivities beyoed that hour? And so ended our Thanksgiving at Old Town.—[Mrs. Stowe's Old Town Folks.

THE DEATH PENALTY.

Under the old provincial laws of Massachusetts no less than thirteen distinct crimes were punishable with death. These were—idolatry, witchcraft, blasphemy, high treason, murder, poisoning, concealment of the death of an illegitimate child, burning a dwelling-house, meeting-house, store-house, or ship, and piracy, and three others. These are enumerated in an act passed by General Court, October 29, 1692. This act, however, was disallowed by the Privy Council, Aug. 22, 1695, on account of the articles relating to witchcraft, blasphemy, &c., being "conceived in very uncertain and doubtful terms"—not, it would seem, because there was any objection to the punishment inflicted. Indeed, this provincial law was merciful toward criminals, compared with English laws of about the same period. The number and variety of crimes punishable with death in England, as late as 1824–9, was very great. Nearly 800 criminals were executed in England alone between the year 1820 and 1830; though this was an insignificant number, compared with the times of Henry VIII., during whose reign of 38 years no less than 72,000 persons were executed for various crimes. We believe treason and willful murder are now the only crimes punishable with death in England, while willful murder is the only crime punishable with death in Massachusetts. —[Boston Traveler.

SELLING FOR PASSAGE MONEY.

HOW GERMANS REACHED THIS COUNTRY FIFTY YEARS AGO.

The Pittsburg Chronicle has discovered, in the Pittsburg Mercury of August 28th, 1818, an advertisement for the sale of a German and his wife, who were to be disposed of to pay their passage money.

We give below the copy of a part of a veritable legal instrument by which a man, for many years well known to the people of this city, disposed of himself to defray his expenses of emigration to this country. It is interesting because it shows the eagerness with which the people of the old country sought America fifty years ago, and the changes that have taken place by which Germans, with comparatively small means, are now enabled to reach this country without being subjected to such straits as are manifest from this document.

THE INDENTURE.

"This indenture witnesseth that Henry Wilder being of full age, and in consideration of the sum of one hundred and three dollars being paid for his passage from Amsterdam to New York, hath bound and put himself, and by these presents doth bind and put himself a servant to John Strausburger, Frederick County, State of Maryland, to serve him, his heirs, executors, administrators, or assigns, from the date hereof, for and during the full term of five years from thence next ensuing; during all of which term the said servant, his said master, his heirs, executors, administrators or assigns faithfully shall serve, and that honestly and obediently in all things as a good, dutiful servant ought to do. And the said master, his heirs and executors, administrator or assigns shall find and provide for the said servant during the said term, sufficient meat, drink, apparel, washing and lodging, and at the expiration of said term to give him freedom dues according to the usage and custom of the country."

This was signed on the 31st day of January, "*Annoque Domini*" 1818, by John Strausburger" and "Hans Ulrich Wildey."

On the back of the instrument was the following indorsement, which indicates that Mr. Wildey had been disposed of to the third party and had discharged his duty with singular fidelity:

REWARD FOR FIDELITY.

JUNE 13, 1819.

I do hereby say that the within named John Wildey is to be free the 1st day of October, 1820, if he behaves himself as he has done heretofore. Given under my hand.

DANIEL ARTHUR.

SETTLEMENT AND ORGANIZATION OF THE FIRELANDS.

BY GEN. L. V. BIERCE.

Although the State of Ohio was thus organized, and jurisdiction opened over the whole territory, yet neither the State, nor the United States owned, or had rightful jurisdiction over a foot of land west of the Cuyahoga. By the treaty of Fort McIntosh, already referred to, made in 1785, all the territory between the Cuyahoga and Maumee (then called Miami of the Lakes) was acknowledged to belong to the Wyandots (then called Hurons), Delawares, and such Ottawas (then called Tawas) as were settled on it.

The French, at a very early day, had an eye on this locality, and, in 1754, built a fort on the east bank of the Sandusky river, called Iunandot, and another on the west bank, near the site of Sandusky City—called Fort Sandusky. By the treaty of 1783, these forts, as well as all the other possessions of the French in America, were given up to England, and by the treaty of 1783 were given up by England to the United States.

As early as 1787 the Moravian missionaries had established a settlement on the Huron river, two miles below Milan, which they called New Salem. They were a remnant of the Christian Indians who had formerly lived on the Tuscarawas, and had been driven from there by the persecution of pagan Indians, and no less *pagan* whites. In 1786 they left Detroit and came to the Cuyahoga, and established a settlement in what is now Independence, which they called Plymouth. Their stay here was short, for in April, 1787, they removed to the Huron river, and found a settlement called New Salem. In fact, down to 1790 the British had all the jurisdiction there was outside the Indian—and occupied to the west bank of the Cuyahoga. A British trading fort was on the top of the bank, west side of Olmsted, as late as 1796.

In 1804 Rev. Mr. Drake, a native of Ireland, arrived with a colony of Christian Indians, and settled at Milan, which they called Pequotting. The increase of whites compelled him and his followers to leave, and in 1807 they removed to the Moravian towns, on the river Thames, in Canada.

By the treaty of Fort Industry, July 4, 1805, the Indian title was extinguished to the land west of the Cuyahoga, and "the Fire Lands" became a substantial, instead of an imaginary possession.

In 1807, two years after the Indian title was extinguished, "the Fire Lands" were surveyed and a permanent settlement was commenced. The first settler on the Fire Lands was Jared Ward, who purchased land in the N. E. section of Milan, and moved on to it in 1809.

In 1810 David Abbot, having purchased 1,800 acres in the N. E. quar-

ter of the township, moved on to it with his family, and thus commenced the permanent settlement of "the Fire Lands," but a rush of settlers followed, and settlements were formed in Huron, Florence, Margaretta, Berlin, Oxford, Portland, and Vermillion, so that they asked to be organized into a county.

On the 7th of February, 1809, the Legislature of Ohio passed an act, entitled "an act to set off a part of the Connecticut Western Reserve into a separate county," by which it was provided "that that part of the Connecticut Western Reserve called the Fire Lands, beginning at the south-west corner of said Reserve; thence North to the North boundary line of the United States; thence Eastwardly along said line to where the East line of the 20th range would intersect said boundary line; then South along said East line of the 20th Range to the South line of the said Reserve to the place of beginning, be and is hereby erected into a county by the name of Huron, to be organized whenever the Legislature shall hereafter think proper, but to remain attached to the counties of Geauga and Portage, as already provided by law, except as hereinafter provided; that Abram Ruggles be, and is hereby appointed Recorder of the County of Huron, and continue in office until said county is organized."

Cugahoga county was formed Jan. 7, 1807, but not organized until May, 1810, so that Huron was really set off from Geauga and Portage.

The only county officer for the three years between the erection of the county and its organization was the Recorder thus appointed by the Legislature.

On the 31st of January, 1815, the Legislature passed "an act to organize the County of Huron," by which it was provided that on the first Monday in April next, the legal voters residing in the County of Huron shall assemble in their respective townships at the usual place of holding elections in said townships, and elect their several county officers, who shall hold their offices until the next annual election. That all that part of the State of Ohio lying westwardly of Huron county, and northwardly of the south line of the Connecticut Western Reserve extended westwardly and eastwardly of the east line of Champaign county, extended due North to the North line of the State, be, and the same is hereby attached to Huron county for judicial purposes."

On the 29th of January, 1811, E. Quinley, of Trumbull, Steph. Clark, of Geauga, and Solomon Griswold, of Ashtabula, were appointed, by the Legislature, Commissioners to fix the seat of justice for Huron county, and were ordered to make returns of their doings to the next Court of Common Pleas for the County of Cuyahoga. On the 15th of June, 1811, they reported that they had fixed upon Township five, twenty-second range, called Avery, for the seat of justice for Huron county. The exact location was at a point in said township about a mile below Milan, on the Huron river, where General Simon Perkins, late of Warren, had been stationed, with a regiment of militia, after Hull's surrender, for the protection of this region from the Indians. He called it "Camp Avery." A fort was erected here called "Fort Avery," and then the county seat was fixed here.

It appears that this locality was then named "*Huron*," though I am unable to say when, or by what authority it was changed from Avery to Huron.

At this time Huron county embraced all the Fire Lands, and the first court was held in the county in the Fall of 1815, in the house of David Abbott. George Tod was Presi-

dent Judge, Alman Ruggles, Jabez Wright and Major Strong Associates. It was said that every voter of the county was present, and great dissatisfaction was expressed at the location on account of the bad quality of the water. It was said by some one who had explored the woods pretty thoroughly, that there was a fine ridge in Norwalk, where it was thought good water could be found.

As soon as the court was over, Elisha Whittlesey, your late President, Platt Benedict, and Major Frederick Faky, got Abijah Comstock to pilot them through the woods to the proposed locality. Satisfied that good water could be there procured, and the location, on a ridge, satisfactory, Whittlesey and Benedict concluded to try and purchase the land. Mr. Benedict started, on horseback, for Connecticut in the Fall of 1815, made the journey in eleven days, and contracted for 1,360 acres, at $2¼ an acre, gave his notes, and took a deed in the name of Mr. Whittlesey, which was sent to him in the Spring of 1816. During the Summer of that year he got Judge Ruggles to lay out the village of Norwalk, in the woods, without a settler or a house within two miles. Mr. Benedict returned in the Spring of 1817, and put up a log house in March of that year, which was the first house on the flat. In April he left, and again returned to Connecticut, being just one month on the road.

On the 26th of July, 1817, he left Danbury, Conn., with his family—a wife, three sons, and two daughters —all minors, together with all his household effects, in a wagon drawn by two yoke of oxen. To show the difficulties under which our Pioneers labored, it is only necessary to recount those of Father Benedict.

He purchased a horse on the way for his family to take turns in riding, but it died on the road between Pittsburgh and Beaver. One yoke of his oxen lost their shoes in crossing the mountains, and he could not get them shod, nor dispose of them until he got to Canfield, Mahoning county. The hind wheels of his wagon gave out, and being unable to replace them, he got a pair of fore wheels of an old wagon, and after seven weeks of toil and privation he arrived at the shanties of Gibbs and Lockwood, about 2 miles from where Benedict had left a log house, to learn that in his absence his house had been burned.

Mr. Gibbs afforded them the best shelter he had, until Mr. Benedict could put up another log house, into which he moved when it had neither doors, windows, nor chimney. The Township of Norwalk then contained eight families, but none nearer Mr. Benedict's than two miles, and no clearing except one around Mr. Benedict's house.

In January 1814 the Legislature passed an act entitled "An act to remove the seat of justice in Huron County," and appointed William Witman, of Portage County, Elias Lee, of Cuyahoga County, and Abraham Tappan, of Ashtabula County, Commissioners " to take into consideration the necessity and propriety of removing the seat of justice of said county," and are authorized, if they deem it expedient, to remove the same, and fix it at such place as they shall think best calculated to promote the best interest and convenience of the citizens.

From the second section of said act it appears the county seat in Avery township had been named Huron, as that section provides that the Commissioners shall obtain from the persons who have purchased lots in the town of Huron, their consent to the removal of the county seat. The act also provided that if the Commissioners decided to remove

the county seat, before doing so, they should take from the proprietors of the land a bond, with good security, to pay the Treasurer of Huron county, a sum equal to the amount of donations for public buildings in said town of Huron.

The Commissioners made their Report in favor of changing the location of the county seat from Huron (Avery township) to Lot No. 13 in Norwalk, and in pursuance of that Report, in the spring of 1818, it was changed, the proprietors paying over $4000 for public buildings.

After the removal of the county seat the name of the township was changed from Avery to Milan, and the village changed from Huron, (Camp Avery,) to the present beautiful and prosperous village of Milan.

Nathan S. Comstock built the first house in Norwalk township in 1809, and his brother Abijah was the first Justice of the Peace and the first County Treasurer.

Huron county embraced all the Firelands until March 15th, 1838, when the Legislature erected the county of Erie out of parts of Huron and Sandusky counties. The erection of this County was the first breaking of the original lines of the Reserve.

A singular feature in the law erecting Erie county, is, that the law fixes the county seat at Sandusky City—when there was a general law of the State, then in full force, passed in 1803, that for each new county three Commissioners shall be appointed by a resolution of both branches of the Legislature, to fix upon a site for the county seat. This is the only instance I am aware of where the Legislature has fixed the county seat.

On the 16th of March 1838, the Legislature organized the county, and ordered the first court to be held at Sandusky City on the second Monday of the then next December.

Sandusky City, thus raised into a county town, was a wilderness prior to 1817. In Jan. '17, Z. Wildman erected a small frame building for a store, which is still standing on Water street and occupied by Barney Esch as a shoe store, Wildman commenced it in 1816, but did not finish it so as to occupy it till 1817—It was then called Ogontz Town. the town was laid out by the proprietors, Z. Wildman and Isaac Mills, of Connecticut, in 1817, and called Portland from the fact that the freestone from the township of Margaretta, resembles the famous Portland stone, when taken from the quarry it is soft and can be sawed, but hardens by exposure.

On the first of July 1817 a store was opened by Mr. Wildman. The city then consisted of two log cabins. The first frame dwelling was erected in the fall of 1817, by William B. Smith, the second soon after by Cyrus W. Marsh, and the third in the spring of 1818 by Moore Farwell.

The first church was a Methodist, in 1830, such was Sandusky City forty years ago; it now contains 1 Episcopal, 1 Methodist, 1 Congregational, 1 Reform Methodist, 1 Catholic and 1 German Lutheran Church, 1 High School, a large number of stores, forwarding and commission houses, 2 furnaces, 1 oil mill, 2 furnances for the manufacture of rail road iron, 2 printing offices, 2 banks and some 14,500 inhabitants.

In March 1840, the county of Ottawa was organized by taking a small part of Erie county, lying in what is called "the Peninsula," the balance from Sandusky and Lucas. In this county was the first hard fight in the war of 1812, on the Peninsula, between a party of volunteers from Trumbull and Ashtabula counties, under the command of Captain Cotton, and a large body of Indians. The great naval battle of Lake Erie was fought within the territorial lines

of this county, and on Put-in-Bay Island, belonging to this county, were buried the American and British officers who fell in that action, side by side.

Kelley's Island, Put-in-Bay and other islands belonging to this county, were the scenes of carnage and bloody conflict, are now as celebrated for the more glorious scenes of peace, where the vine, by its luxuriousness more than supplies the place of the vine and fig tree both in less favored localities.

Such is an outline of your history in the past; the future is before you and needs but the fostering aid of your society to make that future as glorious asthe past has been prosperous and happy.

NOTE.—The above includes the concluding portion of the Monroeville address, by General Bierce, being that part more immediately pertaining to the history of the Firelands.—[ED.

INAUGURAL ADDRESS

OF THE

Mad River Valley Pioneer and Historical Association, delivered at its organization May 2, 1870.

BY REV. A. H. BASSETT.

MR. PRESIDENT: To rescue from oblivion interesting facts and important information, would seem a duty which we owe to those who come after us. The present is indebted to the past; so the present should provide for the future. To-day has the benefit of yesterday's observations and experiences; so should to-day preserve and carry forward its accumulated information for the benefit of to-morrow.

Our American continent, which we are wont to term our Western World, is eminently a land of rapid development and marvelous progress. Our forefathers and foremothers were men and women of great toil, and patience, and endurance, and perseverence. They began at the sterile Plymouth Rock, making it a fruitful field. Then, they erected there a State, diminutive in size, but of mammoth enterprises, and a very empire in resources and population. Then they proceeded to found, and build and people State after State in their Westward progress, not stopping for mountain barriers or for savage opposition. As they advanced, they had to penetrate vast forests and traverse great mountain ranges, with or without roads, and with or without teams, carrying fire arms to secure game for their sustenance, and to protect themselves from savage assaults. They constructed floats for crossing

our great rivers, and even for navigating them for many hundreds of miles (downwards).

Selecting the sites for their dwellings and for their prospective towns, they wielded the echoing ax to fell the timbers of the dense woodlands, and constructed substantial but rude dwellings of primitive materials. The labor, and hardship, and exposure they went through would to us seem incalculable, as unendurable; but they heeded it not. Their methods, their experiences, their sufferings, their exploits, we have loved to hear them relate. But alas! many of them have passed away. And again, alas! many of them have left no record of their thrilling story, of their eventful and adventurous life. Of our own city, within a very few months or years, the following named venerable citizens have taken their departure: Col. Werden, Col. Bacon, Gen. Anthony, Gen. Mason, Judge Torbert, Dr. Hendershott, Squire Spining, Father Kills, Father Schindler, Father Barnett, Father Watkins, and a score—it may be scores—of others.

But, it is yet fortunate that some of the fathers are still with us. We have yet amongst us honored citizens, whose memories are rich in pioneer associations, who have lively remembrances of the primitive and backwoods experiences. If we have not living, old physicians, who used to *click* the spring lance, and bleed the patient in every fever, we have some old ministers, as Bishop Morris and Dr. Brown, who used to be pioneer itinerants, at half paid allowance (not to say salary) which would not to-day keep our clergymen in books and periodicals. If we have not judges who used to preside in log court houses, or lawyers who used to collect their fees in coon skins and maple sugar, we have those of different professions who used to attend school (if at all) in houses of unhewn logs, with puncheon floors, mud chimneys, and window-lights of greased paper. We have among us men who were soldiers in the war of 1812, who used gun-flints, and carried punk and a tinder-box for striking fire; for percussion caps and friction matches were unknown. We have still among us many who used to be happy in log cabin homes; who used to hunt deer and wild turkeys for provisions; who used to thresh their grain and shell their corn by hand, beat it to a degree of fineness in a log mortar with a stone pestle. The generation has not passed away of men who knew no reaper but the sickle, no mower but the scythe, no threshing machine but the flail, no cider mill but the home-made press. The men are here who saw nearly if not quite the first steamboat on the Ohio, who witnessed the beginning of our canals, our McAdamized roads, our railways and our telegraphs. Yes, we have yet pioneers in our midst, whose memories, as we have said, are rich in stories of the past, filled to the brim with incidents and experiences of thrilling interest. Then, whilst we yet have them amongst us, let us as opportunity may serve, gather around them and listen to their simple and unvarnished narrative, for it will have the eloquence of personal realization.

Here, then, is one of the objects of this Association: We would supply a sensible lack, i. e. one means of public entertainment which has not yet been brought before our community—we have no lack of fairs, concerts, festivals or picnics. We are amply favored with the visits of the menagerie, the circus troupe, the dramatic corps, the minstrel band. And our graver and more sensible courses of popular lectures furnish literary entertainment, and some times amusing pastime. But, Mr. President, to make up the variety, we

need a Pioneer Association, to furnish us the entertainment of an occasional evening in the personal recitals of such as can tell us about the past of our now well fixed and prosperous country, and State and city. The pioneers are passing away. Let us ask them to relate to us their story before they go hence. And let us make reasonable haste to do this, as their time may be short.

Another object of this Association is, to answer the purpose of a Historical Society, to gather facts, documents, and relics, for preservation, that we may leave intelligible and useful records for the inspection and benefit of coming generations.

We have evidence that the ancients, from the remotest ages, used to erect monuments, to perpetuate the knowledge of events. And as they knew not the printing art, they were accustomed to engrave their historic facts upon the enduring marble. A great many ancient records in this form are extant, some in a wonderful state of preservation. And modern oriental researches are continually bringing to light additional marble chapters of this ancient history. All this evidences the wisest forethought in the men of the primal ages. It seems that they even thought of us, though then unborn, and did us the great favor to send down to us these simple, primitive records. The value now placed upon them is inestimable.

Grateful, then, to the ancients for their forethought toward us, should we not learn from them, with our tenfold increased advantages, to convey records forward to posterity. Mr. President, the very winds are daily sweeping away many leaves of important information, which should be snatched, as it were from destruction, and laid away for future inspection and use. As for what we may do, in this regard, the men and women of hereafter, whom you and I may not live to see, will rise up and call us blessed.

Then, let us make the beginning of a historical collection; books, papers, manuscripts, fragments, relics, antiquities, curiosities, or what not, pertaining to the history of our country; and its accumulations will soon produce archives which will do credit to our city and county, and be of unending benefit to coming generations.

In the principal counties throughout the State, Pioneer Associations have been formed and are in active operation—wide-awake in the matter. Let us not be behind the times. Do we not consider Clarke county one of the best? Are we not wont to regard Springfield the very garden spot of Ohio? Would we not scorn to fall behind in intelligence, or in enterprise in any worthy respect? We think we have cause to feel proud of our improvements and of our achievements in mechanical and manufacturing enterprises. It is indeed said that we boast much of our progress, and of the extensive amount of our industrial products sent abroad to all quarters under heaven. This is well. Let no man stop us of this boasting. But, Mr. President, we have been lacking of one cause of boasting. Up to this time it has been said that Clarke county has no Pioneer Association, no Antiquarian Society, no Historical Club. Please, sir, let us have an end to this. Never again, after today, let such a thing be said of Clarke county. I trust you will so decide, and that this community will sustain you with its hearty amen and its prompt co-operation.

Mr. President, I need not ask, are you aware, are our people generally aware, that Clarke county, of which we are citizens, contains some historical localities of rare interest. We have just at hand the famed *Mad River*. I have been curious to

learn, and have made considerable search to ascertain the origin of this unique name. You may smile at my simplicity, as I confess that for many years I had an idea that this river derived its name from the appellation given to General Anthony Wayne, as Mad River Valley was partly the theater of his important operations. On account of his characteristics of uncommon daring and bravery, he received the epithet *Mad Anthony*. But I have had to relinquish this supposition, so long entertained, for my researches have brought to light but one explanation—that given by Timothy Flint, in one of his volumes of Western History. Flint represents Mad River as thus named because of the *furious* character of its current! Now, it so happens that I have not traveled extensively enough up and down the stream to discover its furious portions. It has usually appeared quite calm and unassuming when I have met with it. Hence, I could not say that it is rightly named. By the way, Mr. President*, you have an honored position in one of the *Banks* of the Mad River. Its basis is rock, and its front marble. I have called in sometimes in this cliff of the River Bank, but to me it never seemed a *Mad* House. So, upon the whole, I apprehend the name of our river is a misnomer.

Long before the settlement by whites, one hundred years ago, and how much longer ago I presume no living man knoweth, there was an Indian town called Piqua situated on the opposite side of Mad River, five or more miles below this point. I think this was the original Piqua, as may appear presently. The name (Piqua) in the Shawnee is said to signify "a man that sprang up out of the ashes." Now, some of us white men may have had such antecedents as this, and we might not relish being reminded of it. This Piqua, on Mad River, was a place of much consequence for the time, extending for more than three miles up and down the margin of the river. Its reputation as headquarters of the Shawnee tribe was known far abroad. And even before the settlement of Ohio, as long ago as 1780, an army of a thousand men was raised in Kentucky, and, under command of General George Rogers Clark, came out through the wilderness (for there was no white settlement even at Cincinnati), all the way to the Piqua town, on Mad River, to subdue and destroy it. On their way they came to old Chillicothe town, on the Little Miami, which was at the spot you now call Oldtown, a little this side of Xenia. (But there was then no Xenia, mind you.) Apprised of their approach, the Indians had not only abandoned the place, but had set fire to their houses, and nearly all were consumed. The army pursued the Indian road from Chillicothe across to Piqua, probably passing near where Enon now stands. You know there is an ancient mound in that vicinity. To be brief—Piqua and its fort were destroyed. And the army having fulfilled its mission, retraced its steps to Kentucky, and was forthwith disbanded. Just here observe, we are honoring the memory of Gen. G. R. Clark, who led this army, by calling after him the name of our county.

Meanwhile, it seems the Indians were dispersed from old Piqua, and went over to the Great Miami, and built another Piqua, which still survives, and the white man's edition of it they how call *City*.

About the year 1768 or 1769, little more than a hundred years ago—at Piqua town on Mad River, Tecumseh was born. He must have been a half grown lad, at the time his native town was destroyed; old enough

*T. F. McGrew, Cashier of the Mad River National Bank.

however to be an observer of the sad scene, and to receive his impressions of the affair. It was natural, if not meritorious, in him, that he should be loyal to his nation and strive to repel the encroachments of the whites. He grew to be a leading and influential chief and warrior. It is said that he traveled so extensively as to visit all the tribes east of the Mississippi, from Mackinaw to Georgia, to endeavor to unite all in a planned combination against the American Government. It seems that in the Indian style he was a natural orator, and sometimes wielded a marked power with his eloquence. But his plans were foiled and had to be given up. In the year 1812, he was induced to become an ally of the British army. They made him a Brigadier general, and it is said he was in every battle in the Northwest, except that of Tippecanoe, until he fell in the battle of the Thames, 1813, as was believed from a pistol shot from the hand of Richard M. Johnson. Gen. Tecumseh, though he did not please Gen. Harrison, had his noble traits of character. It is particularly represented that he behaved with great humanity towards our men at the seige of Fort Meigs. When General Procter had abandoned the American prisoners to the ferocity and tomahawks of the savages, our great Indian chief, Tecumseh, came rushing in, and exerted his authority to arrest the massacre; and meeting a Chippewa chief, who would not desist for persuasion or threats, he buried his tomahawk in his head. Tecumseh fell in his prime —in his 44th year. Now, be it remembered, that this Tecumseh, celebrated throughout two great nations, besides his own people, had his birthplace here on Mad river, in our very vicinity. If we are not proud of this association of ideas, I apprehend we have no cause to be ashamed of it. I know not why we have not given his name to something, if it were only a way station or a back street.

We have certainly immortalized the names of some meaner white men. I have passed through important towns named Tecumseh in other States, hundreds of miles from the birthplace of the warrior. He was certainly a shrewd and brave man; and, viewed from his standpoint, was a man of principle. Could he rise from the dead, and appear among us, I apprehend we would have to give him amnesty, though a red man, and I think he would be a pretty popular fellow. Had I assurance of a second, I would move that we yet set up the name of Tecumseh some where in Clarke county.

But, pardon me, Mr. President, I have gone beyond my intention when I set out. I had no purpose to give a sketch of Tecumseh, or of our local history. Here is a rich theme for some gentleman more competent than your present speaker. I desired it should be suggested to this community, as many may not be aware of it, that Clarke county, Ohio, is rich in historical assoiciations. And, this being the case, it is a lack which is not creditable to us that we have in existence no organization of the character of a Pioneer, or Antiquarian, or Historical society. I am gratified to know that we have among us, intelligent and honored citizens, who have lived nearly or quite all their lives in this section, some who were living in this valley whilst Tecumseh was yet living, and whilst his tribe was yet residing, or at least wandering in Ohio, and not far distant. And I do not despair of finding out some one of our old settlers who have actually seen Tecumseh. The inquiry would not be an unworthy one. My old friend John A. Crain, of Bethel township, (I wish it were called Tecumseh), who was post master in Springfield, thirty years ago, informs me that he was

born on the very farm where he now has his home, more than half a century ago, and this is the very locality of old Piqua town. Had I not in time past repeatedly visited the place, I should certainly now desire to make an excursion to look upon the famed spot.

Through the kindness of a member of the family of Mr. C., I am furnished with some ancient relics from the battle ground of old Piqua. He informs me also, as I trust I may use the freedom to mention, that Gen. J. W. Keifer was also born in the same vicinity; and the Hon. Samuel Shellabarger; too, had his birthplace but a short distance from there on the opposite side of the river. These gentlemen, I doubt not, would be able to communicate many circumstances of interest, historical, or, at least traditional, connected with the old Piqua locality. Many other citizens, doubtless, are also possessed of facts and incidents, historical or antiquarian, pertaining to the Mad River Valley or some other portion of the State. I trust these will become enlisted in behalf of this Association, and will be induced to give us hereafter their views and their narrations for the entertainment of the public.

Mr. President, I pray you that you go not back from this movement. Let it be a success and a perpetuity. And let us not forget that all should be done in God's fear, and to the glory of His name.

Celebraiion of American Independence at the Licking Summit in 1812.

BY COL. JOHN NOBLE.

A large majority of the citizens of Ohio at this time know but little of the great Ohio Canal, and the interest taken in the commencement of the work. As I was a witness of the improvements of that day and time, let me say to you, the law passed autorizing the building of the canal in Ohio was then a big thing. The country was full of every kind of produce. We had ham at 3 cents per pound, and eggs at 4 cents per dozen, flour at $1.00 and $1.25 per hundred. So that ham and eggs and batter cakes, were more plenty than money. All the coin in circulation would not pay taxes and redeem our letters from the post office. The subject had been agitated for three years, and the law was finally passed and the question of location settled in the spring of the year 1825.

The Commissioners appointed by the Legislature to carry on the work, appointed Judge D. S. Bates, an experienced engineer of the State of New York, and in their wisdom made the Licking Summit in Licking county, the site of beginning, and then gave notice to all concerned throughout Ohio and the adjoining States, that a commencement of the excavation would be made on the fourth day of July, 1825.

Samuel Forrer, of Dayton, was appointed principal acting engineer,

John Forrer as local engineer on the Summit, and immediately commenced preparing a few rods of ground, where the line of canal would pass through a field, for the public demonstration. Gov. De Witt Clinton, of New York, Messrs. Rathburn and Lord, and many others were invited, and Gov. Clinton was expected to remove the first spadeful of earth in excavating the canal. Licking and Fairfield counties had an important interest in the undertaking, being center counties, pretty well settled, rich soil and far from market.

A correspondence between the leading friends of the enterprise was soon had, and a committee of two from Licking, viz: Judge Wilson and Alexander Homes. On the part of Fairfield, Judge Elnathan Scofield and John Noble were chosen, with instructions to carry out the wishes of the Canal Commissioners. The committee, at their first meeting, engaged Gotleib Steinman, a hotel keeper of Lancaster, and now living there, to furnish a dinner for the invited guests, and as many more as would pay for a dinner ticket at one dollar and fifty cents each ticket. A losing business for Steinman, as it turned out. It happened to be wet the two or three days before the Fourth, and as there were no houses near the site of entertainment, rough booths were made in the woods, tables and seats of plank, hauled from sawmills at a great distance. All the fancy pastry, and part of the dinner was prepared at Lancaster, eighteen miles south. So the whole preparation was made under most unfavorable circumstances. The roasts and broils were prepared on the ground, and the Fourth opened fine and clear, and we had a good dinner which was enjoyed by all that partook. But the thousands that attended this celebration, many of them the pioneers of Ohio, had looked out for the emergency by bringing their "grub" with them.

The ceremonies commenced as had been agreed upon. Gov. Clinton received the spade, thrust it into the rich soil of Ohio, and raised the first spadeful of earth, amidst the most enthusiastic shouts of the thousands present. This earth was placed in what they called a canal wheelbarrow. Then the spade was passed to Gov. Morrow, the then Governor of Ohio, a Statesman and Farmer. He soon sunk the spade its full depth, and raised the second spadeful. Then commenced a hustle for who should raise the next. Capt. Ned King, as we familiarly called him, having the command of an Infantry Company, present from Chillicothe, raised the third; then some of the guests in Gov. Clinton's company, and finally the barrow being full, Captain King took hold of the handles and wheeled it out to a bank. For me at this time to attempt to describe the scene is impossible. The most enthusiastic excitement by all the thousands, and shouts of joy went to the All-Giver. The feeling was so great that tears fell from manly eyes, the strong expression of the heart. Mr. Thomas Ewing of Lancaster, was Orator of the day. The stand for speaking was in the woods. The crowd was so great that one company of Cavalry were formed in a hollow square, around the back and sides of the stand for speaking. The flies, after three day's rain, were so troublesome that the horses kept up a constant tramping, which induced the following remark from my old friend Caleb Atwater, that evening at Lancaster. "Well," says he, "I suppose it was all right to have the horses in front of the speaker's stand, for they can not read and we can."

Gov. Clinton and friends, Governor Morrow, Messrs. Rathburn and Lord, and many others, were invited to visit Lancaster, where they were

handsomely entertained by the citizens. They then passed north to Columbus. The gentlemen, Rathburn and Lord, of the party, were the men who had negotiated the loan of four million dollars for Ohio. And the Lancaster, Ohio Bank, was the first to make terms with the Fund Commissioners to receive and disburse the money, in payment of work as estimated every month, on the Roaring Canal, as the boys on the work were pleased to call it. Boys on the work! Only think of it, ye eight hour men! Their wages was eight dollars per 26 working dry days, or 30¾ cts. per day, and from sunrise to sunset. They were fed well and lodged in shanties, and had their jiggers of whisky the first four months.

Micajah T. Williams and Alfred Kelley were the acting Commissioners, and faithful public servants they proved themselves to be. They were passing up and down the line often, and had seen the bad effects of the jigger of whisky. They left notice at each contract station that they would not pay estimates monthly if the contractors furnished whisky on the work. An order that produced great grumbling amongst a certain class of men, but promptly obeyed by contractors. The jigger, though small, not a gill in measure, exhausted for me one barrel of whisky in four and one half days on sixty men. It was jigger at sunrise, at ten o'clock, at noon, at four o'clock, and then before supper. Whisky cost four dollars for thirty-two gallons.

Men from Fairfield, Hocking, Gallia, and Meigs counties, and all the country around came forward. Farmers and their sons wanted to earn this amount of wages, as it was cash, and they must have it to pay taxes and other cash expenses. Wheat sold at 25 cents per bushel, corn 12½ cents delivered in Lancaster or at distillery, oats ten cents. But before the canal was finished south of the Summit, the North end, from Dresden to Cleveland, was in operation. Then wheat sold on the canal at 75 cents per bushel, and corn rose in proportion, and then the enemies of the canal, all of whom were large land holders or large tax-payers, began to have their eyes opened. One of these I will name. A Mr. Shoemaker, of Pickaway county, below Tarlton, was a rich land owner, and had opposed the building of the canal, as it would increase his tax, and then be a failure. This same gentleman, for such he was, told me his boys had, with one yoke of oxen and farm-cart, hauled to Circleville potatoes and sold them for forty cents per bushel, until they had more money than paid all his taxes for the year. This was an article they never had sold before, and that he now was a convert to improvement Wheat raised from 25 cents to $1.00 per bushel before the canal was finished.

And now let me say, as I have lived to see all to this time, the Ohio Canal was the beginning of the State's prosperity.

It would naturally occur to you or any other business men of to-day, how could men manage to obtain funds to sustain trade, when prices of produce were reduced to wheat 25 cents, corn 12 cents, and oats 10 and 12 cents per bushel? I will give you my experience of one or two years of trade in Lancaster, Ohio, if you have patience to read it.

After part of two summers' hard work on the Ohio Canal, making the first mile or more south of the deep cut in Fairfield county, it being the extreme south contract, let in July, 1825, I being a novice at the work, lost money. To continue the hard luck, I built a banking house, by contract, for the company of the Lancaster Ohio Bank, on the north

side of Main street, in the fall and spring of 1826 and 1827. I had all the teams and tools used on those works now on hand, and to continue my bad luck, I entered into a partnership with a young man who was conducting a distillery on the Carpenter farm, one and a half miles south of Lancaster. He was enterprising, and proposed enlarging the establishment, renting the next farm north, where Carpenter had built a saw mill, with a 32 feet fall of water, the stream being a spring stream brought from the distillery, and thereon erecting a mill for our grinding, and large enough in the two upper stories for the introduction of cotton machinery, or anything that would make money (or rather spend it, as I afterwards found out). The farm we could use to advantage, and we turned the farm house into a boarding house for our hands. I enlarged the capacity of the distillery by purchasing machinery at Pittsburgh; built a new mill house; went to Raccoon and purchased a pair of mill stones; bought stock hogs, and began to find myself hard up for money. My partner had but little invested, except his labor and capacity to conduct the distillery, and, like myself, was rather an expensive genius. We had accumulated largely in whisky and pork, and now to obtain money! We must seek a market for our surplus. New Orleans was then most accessible.

Moses Crosiss, a single man, who had been in the river trade, lived near us, and as he had been to New Orleans the two previous years, as Supercargo and Captain of his own boats, we made a contract with him to have two boats built at Circleville, on the Scioto, where we could load them. The boats for this trade were first called Arks, and then Broadhorns, but now, at Cincinnati, Flat-boats. They were about ten or twelve feet wide, six feet high, and fifty or sixty feet long; well framed at the bottom to two timbers called gunnels, studded firmly; then planked with two-inch oak on the bottom and three or more up the sides and end; then well corked with hemp and tar, to make them water-tight; a flat roof of thin boards, double sprung up in the center, to carry off the rain; the sides above water enclosed with common boards; a fire-place and chimney built in the front end, a rudder in the stern, and two long sweeping oars, and you have a river boat. The crew consisted of one steersman, two at the oars, one Captain, and in this a Supercargo, and if two boats, double the hands. The winter of 1827–28 was unusually wet, but notwithstanding the bad roads and twenty-two miles of distance, we had the load of 500 barrels delivered on the bank of the Scioto, two miles above Circleville, and loaded, ready to start, on the third day of February, 1828. We had employed an experienced pilot of the Scioto to Portsmouth, after which Captain Crosiss would take charge of the cargo. The constant rains of that winter, without frost, had so flooded the country, and particularly the river banks, that our Captain became alarmed at the responsibility. He feared the Lower Mississippi would be out of its banks, and the overflow is always dangerous to cross-floating on the current, as they may be drawn out of the main river.

I was on the river, seeing to the payment of boats, &c. After loading the boats, I sent my horse home with word to my wife that I would go to Cincinnati and have the boats and cargo insured, and return home from there. We passed the mill dams, went by Chillicothe, and on to Portsmouth; met the back water of the Ohio ten or more miles from

the mouth of the Scioto; pulled out into the Ohio; the pilot was dismissed; Capt. Crosiss took charge, and we floated safely to Cincinnati. I forthwith went to the insurance office. They hesitated, and then required so much for the insurance, that with the advice of the Captain, I concluded to go to Louisville. We arrived there safely, but at Louisville they understood the magnitude of the flood, and would not insure even at the Cincinnati prices. At this the Captain became more alarmed, and insisted that I should go on and effect a sale by the way, if we could not get through. I wrote home that I was going to New Orleans. A circumstance that reconciled me to my fate was an accident I met with at Cincinnati. I had taken supper and lodged with my old friend John Watson, then on the corner of Front and Broadway. There was a club dancing party in the hotel that night, and to insure me a night's rest, they had sent me to the third story of the rear wing of the building. In the morning, early, before the house was opened, I dressed and left my room. In passing through a long hall, I stepped over a descent of three steps that I had not noticed, and fell, straining my ankle, which became so painful that I could not walk alone, and two of our men almost carried me to the boats on the river, above the foot of Broadway. I procured a bottle of opodildock, and bathed it, and after we got under way, I got out of the boat into our skiff, and washed my ankle and would swim it in the cold river water, then dry it, and wrap it up. So that by the time we arrived at Louisville, I began to walk with a little help, and was satisfied that if I continued the treatment the cure would be certain; which it proved to be.

The rainy season over, the weather became charming. Vegetation made its appearance in the budding Willow, while the bright green of the Mistletoe shone on the trees on the bank of the river. The Falls in the Ohio were scarcely visible. We floated on to the junction of the Ohio with the Mississippi, where we lashed our two boats together, the increased weight and size causing them to float safer. But the high stage of water compelled us to tie up every night. We now began to meet and be passed by steamboats.

[The foregoing paper was written for and published in the Columbus Gazette.]

RECOLLECTIONS OF AN OLD SETTLER.

THE SHOOTING OF DANIEL DIVER IN 1806 — AN ACCOUNT BY MR. COCKLER, A PIONEER OF HUDSON.

At the request of S. Foljambe, of this city, Mr. C. Cockler, now of Streetsborough in Portage county, Ohio, but in 1806 of Hudson, Summit county, has put on paper his recollections of the shooting of Mr. Diver at Deerfield, Portage county, in December of that year. We are obliged to condense Mr. Cockler's account somewhat, which we do without altering its scope or meaning. His memory seems to be good, and, as usual, events which occurred in the freshness of youth remain vividly impressed upon the mind. He also sends us a graphic description of a "bear drive" in Streetsborough, which we shall publish before many days. This shooting of Diver has become one of the historical incidents of the times, and old settlers still discuss its merits, some favoring the Indian and more the white side of the affair. Williams, who shot the Indian, Nickshaw, was a famous hunter of the red men, of whom he slew not a few. There is in the historical museum an old, battered tomahawk which was taken from one of his victims, whose body he sunk in a swamp on the line between Stow and Northampton. Judge Huntington, of this place, afterward governor of Ohio, and General Wadsworth, of Canfield, Mahoning county, exerted themselves for the arrest and conviction of Darrow and Williams without avail. According to Mr. Cockler they were trying to arrest Nickshaw. But we allow him to speak for himself:

"I have seen in a book of Mr. Bierce's, in Summit county, where the difficulty between the Indians and Daniel Diver is set forth, which, as regards the abuse offered to the Indians, is not true, I was acquainted with Mohawk, who shot Diver. He was the son of the chief Seneca. The chief was a large, muscular man, a little short of six feet, straight, with a stern look and a keen black eye. His word was law in his tribe; what he said must be done. He did not allow his tribe to promise anything and not make it good. Honor was their law, and you might be sure of their promises if they lived, for they hated lying If you told them a lie they never forgot it. The Seneca chief had seven children, four sons and three daughters. There were three Johns in the family—John Bigson, John Amur and John Mohawk. His sons-in-law were Geo. Wilson, Nickshaw and Wabunnung. Wabunnung was as smart a fellow as you would see in a thousand. You would think his big eyes would look though a man and see all his faults. If he had been educated he

would have been equal to any white man. Nickshaw traded off his pony with Diver for an old horse. Diver had given them whisky, which made them "cockusa," as they say when they get too much. Nickshaw went off with his old horse, and in about three days brought him back, saying he was no good for Indian, because he could not eat sticks; but he was good for white man. Diver would not trade back and the Indians got mad. They said Diver lied and cheated them. Nickshaw left the old horse, went away and agreed with Mohawk to shoot Diver. Three or four of the Indians came there and asked for whisky. Mohawk did not come in to drink the whisky with them. When they went out they gave a whoop, jumped on their ponies and away they went. Diver thought this a little strange and put his head out of the door, when Mohawk fired at him, mounted his pony and ran away. The shot took out both of his eyes and he fell back on the floor. He was not killed but lived at Deerfield at least thirty years after this. The Indian camp was about three miles away. The Seneca chief and his family moved there in the fall to trade and the greatest friendship existed with the whites till this horse trade. Mohawk thought he had killed Diver and escaped. The neighbors railled under Captain Rogers and took after the Indians. They went to their camp and none were there but followed their trail along the great Indian road, from the Ohio river to Sandusky. It crossed the Cuyahoga at the "Standing Stone" near Franklin mills, (now Kent) and the center road south of Hudson about a mile, thence across the Cuyahoga river near Peninsula in Boston. My father lived then in the south-east part of Hudson. The trail was about sixty rods from our house, and we had a path to the trail. Rogers and his men followed the Indians in the night. It was about the 1st of December, 1806, and the snow was about four inches deep. The night was very cold, and the moon was near the full and shining. They came to our house about one o'clock in the morning, some of them nearly frozen, and about half of them stayed there. Rogers got my father, my eldest brother and my brother-in-law Williams to go with him. They went to Hudson, got a new recruit and followed on to near the west part of Richfield. Here the Indians had stopped, built a fire, stacked thier arms, tied their ponies and laid down with their feet to the fire. Most of them had pulled off their moccasins. When Rogers and his men saw the fire they scattered and surrounded the Indians, some of whom were in a doze and some asleep. As they were closing up Nickshaw and Mohawk sprang up and ran off barefooted. They closed in on the rest, and, it beginning to be light, Rogers wanted somebody to go after Nickshaw and Mohawk, and George Darrow of Hudson, and Johnathan Williams, my brother-in-law, volunteered to go. They said the Indian's feet began to bleed before they got a mile, when they sat down on a log, tied pieces of their blankets around their feet, and then separated. Darrow and Williams followed one of them, who proved to be Nickshaw, whom they overtook at about three miles. He looked back and seeing them gave a whoop and increased his speed, and they after him like hounds after a fox. In about a mile they overtook him, and asked him to come back, but he would not. Darrow said he thought he would clinch him, but when he made the attempt Nickshaw would put his hand under his blanket as though he had a knife. Darrow thought he would get a club and knock him down, but Mr. Indian

could get a club and use it, too. They got out of patience and Williams fired his gun over Nickshaw's head to let him know what was coming if he did not yield. This did not make any impression, and Williams loaded up and popped him over. He fell on his face and gave up the ghost.

"They threw him under a log, covered him with brush and old chunks, and came back to Hudson. Herman Oviatt, David Hudson and Orias Brown mounted their horses, took the trail and found the dead Indian. They got out a state warrant against Darrow and Williams for murder. All the Reserve was then in Trumbull county, the county seat at Warren. When they got there to be tried for their necks they refused to go into the little log jail till the court could be organized, and they had some fuss about it. Finally some persons said they would see they should be on hand at the trial. When the court was ready they came forward and the witnesses were called. Oviatt, Hudson and Brown swore they followed the tracks of Darrow and Williams and found where they shot the Indian. I think J. D. Webb, of Warren, was counsel for them. He muddled the witnesses till they could not tell how the Indian came by his death. Darrow was cleared and brought as a witness against Williams. He swore there was a controversy with the Indian in order to make a prisoner of him; he heard the crack of a gun and saw the Indian fall, but could not tell where it came from. Finally the matter was quashed. There was plenty of whisky and a hoe-down that night. A collection was made for Williams of five dollars for killing the Indian.

"The chief and his family were brought to Hudson and discharged. They were not abused, but went to their old camp in Streetsborough, which was his headquarters. It was on Samuel Olin's place near the river. He lived there till the summer of 1812. When the war broke out they joined the British. He was a man of great intellect and firmness and always had been a friend of our government. He was perfectly honest, and when friendly a good friend; but lie to him and he would never forget it. He believed in being honest and trained his people so."

ANECDOTE OF TECUMSEH.

In the autumn of 1807 a white man by the name of Myers was killed a few miles west of where the town of Urbana now stands, by some straggling Indians. This murder taken in connection with the assembling of the Indians under Tecumseh and the Prophet, created a great alarm on the frontier, and actually induced many families to remove back to Kentucky from whence they had emigrated. A demand was made by the whites upon these two brothers for the Indians who had committed the murder. They denied that it was done by their party or with their knowledge, and did not even know who the murderers were. The alarm continued, and some companies of militia were called out. It was finally agreed that a council should be held on the subject in Springfield, for the purpose of quieting the settlements. Gen. Whiteman, Major Moore, Capt. Ward, and one or two others, acted

as commissioners on the part of the whites. Two parties of Indians attended the council; one from the north, in charge of McPherson; the other, consisting of sixty or seventy, came from the neighborhood of Fort Wayne, under the charge of Tecumseh. Roundhead, Blackfish and several other chiefs were also present.

There were no friendly feelings between these two parties, and each was willing that the blame of the murder should be fixed upon the other. The party under McPherson, in compliance with the wishes of the commissioners, left their arms a few miles from Springfield. Tecumseh and his party refused to attend the council, unless permitted to retain their arms. After the conference was opened, it being held in a maple grove, a little north of where Werden's hotel now stands, the commissioners, fearing some violence, made another effort to induce Tecumseh to lay aside his arms. This he again refused saying in reply that his tomahawk was also his pipe, and that he might wish to use it in that capacity before their business was closed. At this time a tall, lank-sided Pennsylvanian, who was standing among the spectators, and who, perhaps, had no love for the shining tomahawk of the self-willed chief, cautiously approached and handed him an old long stemmed dirty looking earthern pipe; intimating that if Tecumseh would deliver up the fearful tomahawk, he might smoke the aforesaid pipe. The chief took it between his thumb and finger, held it up, looked at it for a moment, then at the owner, who was gradually receding from the point of danger, and immediately threw it with an indignant sneer, over his head into the bushes. The commissioners yielded the point and proceeded to business.

After a full and patient inquiry into the facts of the case, it appeared that the murder of Myers was the act of an individual, and not justly chargeable upon either party of the Indians. Several speeches were made by the chiefs, but Tecumseh was the principal speaker. He gave a full explanation of the views of the Prophet and himself, in calling around them a band of Indians—disavowed all hostile intentions towards the United States and denied that he or those under his control had committed any aggressions upon the whites. His manner, when speaking, was animated, fluent and rapid, and made a strong impression upon those present. The council terminated. In the course of it the two hostile parties became reconciled to each other, and quiet was restored to the frontier.—[Drake's Tecumseh.

MADISON.

Some incidents of pioneer life in the township of Madison, Lake Co., are told by one of the old settlers, A. S. Turney, in the last number of the Painesville Advertiser. There are only three persons now living there who have been in the township over sixty years, viz: Phineas Mixer, his sister, now Widow Whipple, and Mr. Turner. He says: My father started from Connecticut November 7th, 1809, from the town of Reading, Fairfield county, with his family of six children, the eldest being already here, coming out the spring before, and arrived here on the 30th of December, 1808, after a long and tedious journey of fifty-three days. When we arrived we made the tenth family in the town. The families on the east line of the town were those of Joel Harper, Benjamin Tappan, Rolland Ellis, Phineas Mixer, James T. Andrews and Amasa Hill. In the south part of the town, near the river, were Archy Harper, Thomas Montgomery, and on the west, James Miller, Asa Turner, my father. Re-

siding nearest the center of the town, his house was used for religious and political meetings; none of them were very aristocratic, they lived in thier log houses with *stick* chimneys large enough to admit light to enable the women to do their sewing and for the smoke to escape up chimney, or at least a portion of it. Our living was not of the finest, although we had wild turkey, bear and raccoon, yet we had to catch them before we ate them, so that at times our tables would not groan with their burden of good things, but oftener the groaning would come from those that surrounded it on account of the scanty supplies. Sometimes we spent a day fishing in Grand River. There were no dams to obstruct the free passage of fish. Our method of capturing them was to build a stone dam across the river in the shape of a V, with apex down the stream; at the lower end we made a crib of poles; then we would go half a mile up stream, stretch a grape vine across the river, tie it full of brush, and with three or four men at each end on the shore pull it down stream to our fish basket and drive them in. When we turned out in this way we had rare sport. By repeating the process we would frequently get a fine quantity of fish. We had rare sport in dividing the fish among the company. Afterward each man would go in his turn in the morning, and what fish had strayed into the basket were his.

Notwithstanding we had to suffer many privations, we went to work with a will and cleared away a dense forest and began to plant corn and sow wheat. Sometimes we burned the brush and planted the corn among the logs until we had time to clear them off. If we had the timber now, we then labored so hard to burn, it would be worth more than the land is now. The best land was wanted for cultivation, and the best timber grew on that, and it was a matter of necessity it should be cut down and burnt, as there was no market for it. Land at that time was worth three dollars per acre. The entire corporation of Madison could at that time have been bought at two dollars per acre.

Things began to assume a more pleasing aspect from and after March 1811. From that date to March 1812, 192 wagons and 15 sleigh loads of movers passed our house. Several of the number settled in Madison.

A circumstance occurred in the fall of 1811, Oct, 19, which gave us much alarm. In the adjoining town east, a son of Aaron Wheeler went out in the morning to gather chestnuts and got lost in the woods. All turned out to look for the lost boy Charles. Toward night a violent storm of wind and rain arose, blowing down trees in all directions, but the search was continued all night and the day following and also the succeeding night and following morning. About two hours after sunrise, Charles was found so benumbed with cold he could not walk or scarcely speak intelligibly, without coat or hat, shoes or stockings, and as thoroughly wet as though he had been in the river. With good nursing he was all right again in a few days, and I think is alive in one of the western states.

HISTORICAL.

INTERESTING LETTER FROM EX-GOVERNOR MORDECAI BARTLEY.

The venerable ex-Governor Mordecai Bartley, of Mansfield, Ohio, now in his 87th year, has sent the following communication to the Western Reserve Historical Society of Cleveland, of which Society he was recently chosen an honorable member. We are pleased to learn that Gov. Bartley is enjoying remarkable good health for a man of his years, and is as active as most of men at 70:

MANSFIELD, Nov. 18, 1869.

To the Western Reserve Historical Society:

A residence of over half a century in Northern Ohio, has given me opportunities of witnessing and participating in the early history and condition of this section of the State, and of marking its rapid progress and advance during that period of time.

The early settlers were patient, but enterprising. They of course labored under many trials and disadvantages which are not incident to early settlements of new States and Territories at the present day, because the intercommunication now-a-days is greatly facilitated by steam on railroads, navigable rivers and canals; and the benefits of civilization, education, science and arts, are more rapidly carried of late years into new Territories than in former years.

For many years roads were a matter of serious want, which subjected the growing population to serious discomforts. The communications with available markets were carried only by teams, over mud roads and at distant points.

Up to 1823 a few incipient harbors had been opened along the shore of Lake Erie, and to those points our farmers and merchants within a radius of 75 to 100 miles interior (as far south as the National Turnpike Road) had to transport their produce for sale by wagons, and bring return wagon loads of goods and merchandise. This long wagon transportation greatly decreased the home value of their products, and increased the price of articles of merchandise and consumption. Wheat, which would sell at a port on Lake Erie at 60 to 70 cents per bushel, would generally cost from 25 to 30 cents per bushel to transport it by wagons to that port, leaving but 25 to 40 cents per bushel as the home value of it.

We can remember the time when merchandise was regularly wagoned from Baltimore and Philadelphia over the Alleghany mountains, in Pennsylvania, by six and eight horse teams, at a cost to our merchants of $10 per 100 pounds.

The completion of the Erie canal through the State of New York, and the construction of the great Ohio canal (bisecting our State from Cleveland to Portsmouth) partially relieved our population from some of these disadvantages. Facilities

which we then thought very fine, were opened, and success by canal to northern, eastern, and southern markets was then offered.

Cotemporary with the construction of canals, from 1823 to 1830, the people of Northern Ohio exerted themselves in behalf of the commercial interests on Lake Erie. Through their Representatives in Congress, appropriations were repeatedly secured from the General Government, to open and improve a number of harbors between Erie and Toledo. The Thirteenth Congressional District of Ohio at that time embraced the seven large counties of Cuyahoga, Lorain, Medina, Huron, Seneca, Sandusky and Richland, and the several members of Congress from Ohio in those years (all of whom I believe are now deceased, save the one who holds this pen) were enlisted, and willingly co-operated with the Representative of the Thirteenth District in this enterprise.

The opening and enlargement of these various harbors served to augment the floating facilities on the lakes. Sailing and steam vessels multiplied; trade with the upper lake country was engaged in, and a large portion of the products of Northern Ohio farms and workshops was carried to supply the wants of the new settlements of Michigan and of the new States bordering on the northern lakes.

Northern Ohio during these years increased rapidly in population, and we thought then that the advance from mud roads and corduroy bridges to canal navigation, was something to be proud of. Journeys and pleasure excursions were then made in canal palaces, at the rate of four miles per hour—and canal freights were transported at the slow speed of 25 and 30 miles in 24 hours. Stage coaches on most of our public highways, seemed to be the successful rivals of canal travel, and our merchants were fortunate if they accomplished their annual visit to Eastern cities after merchandise, in less than three weeks, and the receipt at their stores, of their Eastern purchases in less than six weeks from the time of leaving home.

A journey by stage coach from Cleveland to Columbus during winter or spring, ordinarily occupied three or four days, (or as many days by stage coach *then*, as hours by railroad *now*), and the passengers were fortunate if they made the journey without having to work their way, by often carrying a rail and lifting the coach out of deep ruts and mud holes.

During the last thirty years the era of railroads and telegraphs has succeeded, or rather has almost superceded the use of canals in Ohio, and the descendants of those early settlers above referred to have been richly enjoying the comforts and conveniences of railroad conveyances, which their fathers were deprived of.

About 1843, railroads began to be constructed in Northern Ohio, and open up communication with Lake Erie. Since that year line after line and railroad after railroad has been completed, until at this date the territory known as Northern Ohio (North of the National Turnpike Road), alone is permeated and traversed by over two thousand miles of laid track. Some of these roads, connecting as they do with continuous trunk lines, stretching across the continent from ocean to ocean, become national in their character and importance, and have combined to stimulate and augment the population, the thrift, the enterprise and power of Northern Ohio, and of our State at large.

These vast railroad improvements, together with the power of electricity brought upon the telegraph

wires, have served almost to annihilate space and distance, and strike the mind with wonder and astonishment when we contrast the present status of our beautiful country with what it was half a century ago. Then, by slow conveyance over bad roads, or by tardy canal it required weeks to make a journey of a few hundred miles, or even to write to and receive an answer from distant parties by mail. Now an excursion of three or four *thousand* miles by rail is the work of a very few days; and by telegraph we can communicate with friends four thousand miles asunder in a few minutes, through the bottom of the ocean.

Had the history of this country been anticipated seventy years ago, and the pen of prophecy had then recited to the people of Europe what would occur, as it has occurred, in these improvements, they would have regarded it as fabulous. Even now, when it is seen by the eyes of men, it bears the charm of romance.

Our country is beautiful! It is beautified by mountains and valleys, by noble lakes and navigable rivers, which surpass all others in the world. Nature has indeed done much for us, and under our Constitution, since 1787, we have grown and developed from thirteen feeble States and three millions of population to thirty-six States and eight large territories, with a population of forty millions.

Who can predict our destiny as a nation under a wise and fostering government?

Our domain is immense in extent. It is thought to be capable of supporting five hundred millions of human population, and at the same time furnish large supplies to foreign countries, which is more than any other nation on the earth can boast of. China claims a population of 365 millions, but their mode of taking the census is very imperfect, and it is very doubtful whether China contains 300 millions of inhabitants.

A late English writer giving the present state of Europe, informs us that every square mile in England supports three hundred and twenty persons. The population of France and Prussia is about in the same ratio, but in East Flanders each square mile supports 550 persons—which (at 640 acres to the square mile) shows that each individual is supported by one acre and a fraction of ground. There Agriculture is nearer perfection than in any other part of the world. With these facts and data in view, who can predict our destiny?

For the rich inheritance and these manifold benefits the American people have great reason, on this, our National Thanksgiving Day, to feel and to express great gratitude. May the Flag of our Union, the emblem of Liberty, be recognized and respected in every State and from the Atlantic to the Pacific, and may gentle and peaceful zephyrs float over every inch of our territory until the archangel shall sound his last trump, and until the "wreck of matter and the crush of worlds."

M. Bartley.

FIRST PUBLIC LIBRARY IN THE NORTH-WESTERN TERRITORY.

At a late meeting of the Historical and Philosophical Society of Ohio, Robert Clarke, through the Secretary, submitted the following remarks on the

FIRST PUBLIC LIBRARY IN THE NORTH WESTERN TERRITORY.

It has for many years and by many persons been claimed that the library formed at Ames, in the county of Athens, Ohio, in 1804, was the first public library established in the territory northwest of the river Ohio. There seems, indeed, to have been a charm in the soubriquet "Coonskin Library," by which it has become widely known in later times. Orators, at anniversary celebrations and pioneer meetings, have dwelt with pleasure and pride upon what they accepted as a fact, that the first library in the Territory was purchased with coon skins contributed by the pioneers of Ames and its neighborhood.

In 1845, at the meeting of the Washington County School Association, the venerable Judge Cutler described the formation of this library with all the enthusiasm of a pioneer glorying in the privations and pleasures of the olden time. His remarks will be found in Cist's Miscellany, vol. 2, page 19. I do not quote them here, as I think Mr. Walker, in his recently published History of Athens County, has given a more accurate account of it. He, too, makes the claim above mentioned. His version covers several pages, but may be stated briefly as follows: "In 1803 the inhabitants of Ames assembled in public meeting to consider the subject of roads, which, having been disposed of, the intellectual wants of the settlement became a topic for discussion. They were entirely isolated and remote from established schools and libraries, and felt keenly the necessity of providing some means for their own and their children's mental improvement. The establishment of a library was suggested, and all agreed that this was the readiest way to meet the case." Money, however, was scarce; what little was in circulation among them, was obtained mostly from the sale of furs to the agent of John Jacob Astor and others, who occasionally visited the settlements of the Ohio Company. The transactions of the little community were carried on almost entirely by barter and exchange.

By the end of the year, however, the subscription paper was liberally signed, and the necessary funds were raised. Mr. Walker, in noticing the fanciful accounts which have been given of the origin of the library, says: "Some hunting adventures supposed to have occurred in the pursuit of skins are given, and the founders of the library appear rather in the light of literary Nimrods, with whom the chase was an intellectual pastime, and every crack of whose rifles brought down a volume of

poems or history." The money was doubtless obtained by the sale of furs and skins of coon, deer, "bar" and other "varmints," as well as hemp, grain and other available articles.

The stock was divided into shares of $2 50 each. Mr. Walker gives a list of the principal stockholders (p. 270). Few took more than one share. The fund thus collected was placed in the hands of Esquire Samuel Brown, who was about making a business trip to Boston, where he, with the assistance of Rev. Thaddeus M. Harris and Dr. Manasseh Cutler, selected and purchased the books, a partial list of which Mr. Walker gives (p. 371). On the 2d day of February, 1804, the stockholders met and adopted "rules and regulations," and the library went immediately into operation. It was incorporated under the name of the "Western Library Association," by an act passed February 19, 1810.

I grant all honor to the worthy pioneers of Athens county, for thus early providing for the intellectual wants of their settlement, but I propose to show that they cannot claim "the honor of having given birth to the first library created in the Territory of the Northwest." *That honor belongs to the sister settlement at Cincinnati.*

In February, 1802, two years previous to the establishment of the library at Ames, the citizens of this thriving little town, influenced by the same desire for mutual improvement, met for the purpose of promoting the establishment of a library. A subscription paper was drawn up, and was soon filled with well known names. This original paper now lies before me, and as it has never, so far as I know, appeared in print, I here copy it entire:

"CINCINNATI LIBRARY.

"At a meeting held on Saturday evening, 13th instant, at Mr. Yeatman's tavern, for the purpose of promoting the establishment of a public library in the town of Cincinnati. Messrs. Jacob Burnet, Martin Baum and Lewis Kerr, were appointed a committee to open a subscription for carrying the above object into effect.

"The committee therefore respectfully submit the following form to the public for subscription:

"We, the subscribers, being desirous of establishing a public library in the town of Cincinnati, agree to take as many shares in the stock of such an institution as are annexed to our names respectively, and pay for the same at the rate of ten dollars for each share.

"'CINCINNATI, Feb. 15th, 1802.

"'Arthur St. Clair, two; Peyton Short, two; Cornelius R. Sedan, two; Samuel C. Vance, two; James Walker, one; S. S. Kerr, two; James Findlay, two; Jeremiah Hunt, two; Griffin Yeatman, one; Martin Baum, two; C. Killgore, one; P. P. Stuart, one; W. Stanley, one; Jacob White, two; Patrick Dickey, one; C. Avery, one; Jacob Burnet, one; Jonathan Smith Findlay, one; William Ruffin, one; Joseph Prince, one; David E. Wade, one; Isaac Van Huys, one; Joel Williams, one.'"

In all thirty-four shares, making $340. Taking into consideration the great scarcity of money at the time, this was an exceedingly liberal subscription, and must have secured for them quite a respectable library. In a note on the back of the subscription list it is stated that the library went into operation March 6, 1802. L. Kerr was chosen librarian.

Of the fate of this library I can find no trace. It may have formed the base of the "Circulating Library Society of Cincinnati," which was established in 1814. (See Drake's Picture of Cincinnati in 1815, page 160.)

OUR OLD NEW ENGLAND HOMES.

At a recent meeting of the New England Historic Geological Society held at Boston, Thomas C. Amory, Esq., read an extended and exceedingly interesting paper on "Our Old New England Homes." He began by referring to the importance of rescuing from oblivion whatever might serve to illustrate the modes of life of past generations, their customs and habits. The tooth of time and the march of improvement were making such sad havoc with our ancient edifices that it had become a paramount obligation with antiquarian societies to make their special study. When we bore in mind how few monuments remained of the first century after the settlement, how many of later date we had known that no longer existed, how many still were left with precious memories of historic interest clustering around them soon to pass away and leave no trace behind them, not only the duty, but the wisdom of collecting and recording while it was not yet time what those who followed us might be glad to know of them was too obvious for dispute.

The circumstances under which our early settlements were founded were not propitious to large and stately structures; what would keep out the weather and the savage was all the shelter that could be attempted. The Puritans were more favored than the colonists of Plymouth; pioneers had been sent to make preparations for Winthrop and his associates; survivors from former expeditions were there to bid them welcome. After referring to the many hardships the Pilgrims had to undergo during their first winter in this country, Mr. Amory spoke of the buildings which they had erected. Of their private dwellings, arranged on either side of Leyden street, in Plymouth, no particular description was given by the early historians, but all their buildings were constructed of logs, filled in with sticks and clay. The chimneys were of wood plastered with clay, oiled paper instead of glass, serving for windows, to let in the light and keep out the weather. A year after their landing there were but seven private and four public buildings in Plymouth. As the town grew in wealth and population, houses larger and more commodious took the places of those that were first erected, but at this day hardly a trace remained of any building of the seventeenth century. The Winslow House, near the landing, as well as that at Marshfield, on the Webster estate, was evidently of later date. The narratives of Winslow and Bradford afforded us what light we had as to the abodes of the Indian tribes, and to these Mr. Amory referred. Many years before the settlement at Plymouth these shores had been the resort of fishermen from the old world, who occasionally landed and took up their abode here. For the accommodation of the passengers of the Arabella, and other vessels that bore her company a building had been constructed on what is now Charleston square,

known as the Great House, when in September, 1630, the colonists, being tempted by the copious springs of water, and invited by Blackstone, then the only inhabitant, took possession of this peninsula. The frame of Winthrop's house was brought over and placed near one of the springs, to which Spring lane was the path, opposite the foot of School street. The plot upon which it stood was about an acre in extent, embracing the site of the old South Church. The house faced south, toward what was called the Green, which, lined with a row of sycamores, formed the garden. This house was long the center of social and political life in the colony. When Winthrop, owing to the faithlessness of his agent in England, fell into embarrassments, he conveyed the estate, in 1643, to his son Stephen, and after his death it passed to John Norton, pastor of the First Church. Under his will it was conveyed by his widow to the Third or old South Church, which was erected in 1668 on the south part of the lot, the house serving for the parsonage. Here Thatcher, Willard, Sewall, Pemberton and Prince may have resided. The Winthrop mansion stood while the colonial and provisional government lasted. During the seige of 1775 and 1776 British troops appropriated the church for riding school; the house was pulled down and its material used for fuel. About the same time the Great House at Charlestown was successively improved as a place of public worship, and as Ling's tavern was burned by the British in the conflagration of Charlestown on the day of the battle of Bunker Hill. This had probably been extended and altered so as to lose all trace of its original character; but Winthrop's house, if enlarged and improved during the nineteen years he lived there, might well have retained for the hundred and twenty-five years of its subsequent existence much of the same appearance and arrangement as when he made it his abode. What manner of house it was, except that it was two stories in height, and of wood, had passed out of mind. It probably possessed one apartment of fair proportions, for Winthrop mentions as such a big hall; that it was plain might be conjectured from his reproach to Cudley, for adorning his house at Cambridge with wainscot, setting a bad example to the rest. That it was spacious might be inferred from the number of his family and dependent inmates under its roof; and it was doubtless less convenient and in good taste. But hardly a record or tradition of its structure or disposition was known to exist. The Bible used by Winthrop was still preserved, also his portrait, the aigrette that fastened his plume, and his memorable journal, but not an article known to have formed a part of the furniture of the house.

Besides his principal abode, Winthrop had another in what is now Somerville, where his farm of twelve hundred acres was situated. He also had another summer retreat at Governor's Island. There were, no doubt, other houses erected within the first few years of the settlement equaling, if not surpassing in dimensions and accommodations, that of Winthrop. Mason Hall, near Portsmouth, built in 1623, the Great House in the town, afterwards occupied by the first President, John Cutts, and also by his brother; Endicott's house at Salem, and many more, were known to have been substantial structures. That where Sir Henry Vane resided, when Governor in 1636, was not far from the line of Tremont street, near the entrance to Pemberton square. It was of wood, and had been standing within the memory of many now

living, with several of its windows latticed.

For the most part the dwellings at the Massachusetts Bay were like those at Plymouth, or what were now met with occupied by pioneers on our own border settlement, built either of mud or clay, or of hewn logs, squared with an axe, notched at the ends to fasten them together, covered with poles or rafters, through which the thatch that formed the roof was exposed to view from beneath. The chimneys were of rough stone set in clay, the upper portion often composed of wooden sticks placed criss-cross, plastered with clay within and without. The fire-places were large, and the big bolts which served as cranes to suspend kettles over the fire, were of oak. These houses consisted generally of a single apartment, about twenty feet square, used for every domestic purpose. The roofs were of shingles or boards, in most cases, as what straw they had could be used to better advantage than in thatches, and the laws of Plymouth early prohibited the use of thatch on account of its combustible qualities. It was not long, however, before the log huts were put to baser uses, and frame buildings substituted, of two stories in front with the back roof sloping to one story in the rear. Circumstances permitting, they faced south invariably. The frames were of oak and often the planking and boards, which accounts for so many being still in existence. Limestone not being found in this neighborhood, pounded clam shells mixed with clay served as mortar. Many houses were filled in with crick laid with clay, whence the outer sheathing derived their name of clayboard. Along shore seaweed dried was often used for the filling. Chimneys built of stone or brick were usually in the center of the building. These were laid in clay, the upper part occasionally being of plastered wood. They opened in huge fire-places on either side of the entrance, and into the kitchen. The general room of the family was long and spacious, lighted on two sides, the other opening into the leanto or shed. The hearths were of ample dimensions, affording space within the capacious ingles for a seat, from which the sky could be seen. In a chimney at Ipswich, which was in the outer wall, a pane of glass was fixed for a lookout. The kitchen chimney also served for smoking ham, which was a main dependence for food, both in the winter and summer. The barns and outbuildings were in close proximity to the house, for the winter snows were deep, and predatory Indians and savage beasts a constant dread. Considering that saw mills had not been introduced, it is rather remarkable that the old houses are found to be so well constructed. It is greatly to be regretted that so few specimens of the carpenters' tools have been handed down, and it is to be hoped that soon, in this country, we shall have a Hotel de Clugney to transmit the modes and appliances of work from generation to generation. Houses of this period and oftener later, after Philip's war, when of wood, had their second floors projecting about a foot for warmth and to keep the wet from the lower floor, or that the occupants, if molested, might, through openings made for that purpose, fire or pour hot water down upon their assailants. On farms, or on places exposed to incursions, garrison houses were constructed of logs or stone for defense, in which the people of the neighborhood gathered upon alarm. These strongholds were often erected at public charge, often by some wealthy planter, who had received encouragement and aid from his neighbors or the town for fitting his house for a refuge impregnable to

attack. One of these houses still remains in Newbury, built by Benj. Pierce, ancestor to the late President.

Mr. Amory gave interesting descriptions of Governor Craddock's house at Medford, the Coffin House at Newburyport, the Collins House, the Hancock House, and several other ancient and curious edifices of a similar character.

THE LAST OF PERRY'S MEN.

The Erie Dispatch has the following short account of "BEN" FLEMING, the last of Perry's men. Fleming died on the 8th and was duly honored last week as one of the heroes of the battle of Lake Erie:

"Benjamin Fleming, "the last of Perry's men," whose obsequies were worthily solemnized at Erie, Pa., on Wednesday, was born at Lewiston, Delaware, on the 20th of July, 1789. He first entered the merchant service, sailing the coasting trade, and at times in the Delaware pilot boats. In 1811 he enlisted in the navy as a common sailor on board the frigate Essext. He was transferred to the John Adams, in the summer of 1812, and while his vessel lay in New York harbor, he responded to a call for volunteers for service on the Lakes. With a draft of men under Lieutenant Sisson, he set out for Black Rock, near Buffalo. Lieutenant J. D. Elliott, who was at that time in command of the Navy Yard at Canjaquada's Creek, sent out a courier to Lieutenant Sisson to hasten the march of the party, as he with Captain Towson of the army, desired their assistance in cutting out the British brigs, Detroit and Caledonia, which were then lying under the guns of Fort Erie. Fleming formed one of the party which captured them on the night of Oct. 8, 1812. With others he boarded the Detroit; but that vessel grounding within range of the enemy's fire, she was abandoned and burned. With a draft of men under sailing-master Dobbins, Fleming then went to Erie, and when Perry's fleet was fitted out was made a maintopman in the Niagara. He participated in the famous vicory of September 10, 1813, of the events of which his recollection within a year or two grew somewhat confused. In the spring of 1814, he was discharged from the service, and settled in Erie. He married there, and was the father of no less than sixteen children. For many years his principal employment was fishing, but latterly he was almost entirely dependant upon charity. Some twenty years ago, Capt. Dobbins secured him prize-money for the capture of the British brigs near Fort Erie.

"THE LAST OF PERRY'S MEN."

EDS. HERALD:—In your notice of the death of Benjamin Fleming, of Erie, one of the survivors of the battle of Lake Erie, you spoke of him as "the last of Perry's men." This is a mistake which should be corrected.

There are yet living, as far as known, four men who participated in the memorable conflict of September 10th, 1813. Their names are as follows:

Rowland T. Parker, who was born in Orange county, Virginia, October 17, 1775, emigrated to Kentucky in 1789, now resides near Maysville, Mason county, Kentucky.

—— Manhatten, the last survivor of the Niagara, lives near Cincinnati, an octogenarian.

John Norris, born in 1789, is now living in Petersburg, Kentucky.

Dr. W. T. Taliaferro, of Cincinnati, born January 16, 1795, on Mountain Run, Orange county, Virginia. The Doctor was only eighteen years of age, but did yeoman service in the battle.

I am not certain that Lieutenant Thos. Brownell, of Newport, Rhode Island, has paid the debt of nature. He was living last year, but it seems as though I have read somewhere an account of his decease. He was a non-commissioned officer in the battle; and will be remembered as one of the most "conspicuous" old veterans present at the inaugeration of the Perry statue. A. T. G.

Cleveland, May 16.

EARLY TIMES IN MANSFIELD.

We cut the following from the interesting proceedings of Richland County Historical Society's last annual meeting:

STATEMENT OF M. H. GILKISON.

In answer to the questions propounded to the Pioneers of Richland county, I state that my name is Mansfield H. Gilkison. I was born on the lot on which now stands the building known as the North American Hotel, in the year 1811, on the 2d day of February, and being the first male child born in the county so far as known. One of the proprietors of the town of Mansfield, Gen. James Hedges, requested of my parents the privilege of naming me, which was granted. He thereupon named me Mansfield H. In the year 1831, in the month of November, I was married to Emeline Dukes at the residence of General James Hedges, on which occasion he presented me with a deed for a town lot, the same on which Elias Troutman now resides. We have raised a family of four sons and three daughters, five of which are now living. Two of my sons and two of my daughters are married. I reside on Lot 34 in James Hedges' 2d addition to the town of Mansfield, on East Diamond street, in said town. I remember the names, appearance and occupation of a great many of the old settlers of Richland county, among who were Judge McClure, George Coffinberry, John Van Horn, John Wallace, Samuel Carrothers, Mordica Bartley, Winn Winship, Mr. Cotgrove, James Moore, H. H. Wilcox, James Rowland, Mr. Welch, Mr. Condon and many others whom I will not name.

John Wallace, when he first came to Mansfield, erected a log cabin on the lot now occupied by the Sturges block on Main street, and soon after moved into the woods and cleared up a farm known as the Wallace farm, two miles east of Mansfield.

Judge McClure, in a very early day, kept a tavern at the old Lamberton corner. He moved from there to near Leesville, on the Whetstone river where he followed the

pursuit of a farmer until he died. He was a very small man in stature, and as good a citizen as ever lived in the county.

James Moore was one of the first sheriffs elected in the county. I remember a little anecdote that occurred during his official career, which I will relate: Jimmy was in the habit of occasionally getting a little "tipsy" and one day during a term of Court, he had taken one or two drams too much and about two o'clock in the afternoon, he conceived that it was getting dark. He went to the Court room and lit up the candles while Court was in session. The Judge asked him what he was doing that for. He replied, "that he guessed he knew his business."

I also knew Jones, the man that was killed by the Indians. He was killed in the morning and lay where he was killed until the following morning, the citizens being afraid to leave the Block House. It was always supposed that he was killed by some of the Green Town Indians, he having taken some advantage of some of them in a trade.

I could say much of the manners and customs of John Chapman, or Johnny Appleseed, as he was generally called, but his history being pretty well published to the world heretofore I will say nothing.

I can well recollect when West Diamond street was not cut out along where the Wiler House now stands. The Public Square was very heavily timbered with white oak timber. I have seen from three to four hundred Indians in Mansfield at a time for the purpose of trading. Their products of trade were meats, maple sugar, furs and cranberries. They generally had a big drunk before they left, and in that state were sometimes troublesome. On one occasion, when Joseph Cairns kept a small store on the McFall corner, an old Indian chief by the name of Mooney threw his tomahawk from Miller's corner, at Cairns, which stuck fast in the door cheek within a few inches of Cairn's head. There were other Chiefs I knew, Captain White Sides, Captain Grey Eyes, Captain Johnny Cake and Captain Camundime.

You wish to know who built the first brick house in Mansfield. I do not know, but it was built on the lot where H. R. Smith is erecting his building now. It was first occupied by Clem. Pollock, a wheelright by trade, and a son-in-law of Judge McClure.

I see you wish to know of our early schools. My first recollection of schools is, that a stranger by the name of O'Brien came to my father's house and wanted to get up a school, which was accomplished. A small anecdote of the old Irisnman was told by my father many times. The old man had never seen a watermelon, but had heard of their good qualities, and soon heard that father had some and he wished to test them. Father went to the field and brought a common green pumpkin, cut and served it to the old gentleman, but after eating away at the same for awhile he concluded that he did not like watermelon. The old man kept school but a short time when he was discharged for drunkenness. The next teacher that I have any recollection of, was a man by the name of Timberlick. He was soon discharged for the same reason. There are many other little incidents that I know that might be interesting to some folks, but being no writer, and with but little time, I stop.

M. H. Gilkison.

RELICS OF THE REVOLUTION.

The Philadelphia Evening Telegraph, in noticing the annual meeting of the American Philosopical Society, in that city, says that the Society was established in 1744, with Benjamin Franklin as Secretary. After a few years of prosperity the members, with the exception of its Secretary, were overcome with apathy, and continued in that state until 1768, when it was rejuvenated. What aided to secure its prosperity then was the patronage of John Penn. The use of the council chamber in the State House was granted it. On the 20th of December this association and a rival one, under the name of the American Society, were merged together, under the title—"The American Philosophical Society, held at Philadelphia, for Promoting Useful Knowledge." During the Revolution the meetings were rare, for in Philadelphia the enemy was stationed a great portion of the time, and the meetings were stopped. This society thenceforward continued prosperously until the present time. Its membership has embraced the most learned of Americans, and its aid to the prosperity of science and art has been very great.

The rooms of the society are on the second floor of the building occupied by the Water and Highway Departments. They are warm and cozy apartments, with all the comfort and plainness appertaining to a Quaker residence. About the walls hang many fine and valuable portraits—one of Jefferson, worth to the *virtuoso* almost its weight in gold. Then there are others of Peter Duponceau, Chief Justice Tilghman, Dr. Chapman, Alexander Dallas Bache and Robert Patterson.

Here also is to be found the document called the Declaration of Independence. It is the original draft of the Declaration of Independence, as it came from the hand of Lee, when he had made some alterations after Jefferson had drawn it up. This document is remarkable, in that it presents that paragraph which was stricken out. It reads thus:

"He (the present King of Great Britain) has waged war against human nature itself; violating its most sacred rights of life and liberty in the persons of a distant people who never offended him. Captivating and carrying them into slavery in another hemisphere or to incur miserable death in their transportation thither. This piratical warfare of the Christian King of Great Britain, determined to keep open market where men should be bought and sold, he has prostituted his negative for suppressing every legislative attempt to prohibit or restrain this execrable commerce, and that this assemblage of horrors might want no fact of distinguished dye, he is now exciting those very people to rise in arms among us, and to purchase that liberty of which he has deprived them, by murdering the people upon whom he also obtruded them, thus paying off former crime committed against the liberties of one people with crimes which he urges them to commit against the lives of another."

This document, yellow from the influence of time, is preserved in a strong frame. Jefferson was not a journalist, or he would not have written upon both sides of the paper. In this same room, too, we see the chair which he almost invariably used. Here, too, can be seen the old astronomical clock, made by John Rittenhouse, one of the presidents of the society, and which, for forty years, was the standard by which to set Philadelphia time pieces.

NOTES.

In the olden times, when pastors "spoke right out in meetin'," a clergyman in Scituate thus addressed the late Mr. Bryant: "Neighbor Bryant, it is to your reproach that you have disturbed the worship by coming late, living as you do within a mile of this place; and especially so since here is Goody Barstow, who has milked seven cows, made a cheese, and walked five miles to the house of God in good season."

Seventy-three years ago the town of Franklin, Conn., "voted to hire a man to instruct the school for four months, at $8 per month, finding his own board, to keep six days in a week and 26 days for a month, and that no partiality be used on the part of the master."

The Maine Historical Society has a piece of paper taken from the solid wood of a saw-log, received for sawing at Augusta some time ago. The paper bears the words: "1775, J. B. Dankirk, with Arnold." Ninety circles in the wood were counted outside of it, the precise number of years since Arnold's expedition up the Kennebec.

MICHIGAN ANTIQUITIES.

Michigan antiquaries are excited over the discovery in Allegan county, in a level piece of heavy timbered land of a mound of earth with a base sixteen by eighteen feet, and now perhaps four or five feet high. On the summit grows a beech tree, but with a gnarly look, as if the kind of food its roots have met below have not agreed with it. A flourishing maple, lower down in the mound, where it probably did not find so much dead man, has attained the size of two feet in diameter. The mound is a stack of human bones. A slight opening has been made on the top, and skulls and similar horrors taken therefrom, but very little of this big grave has been disturbed and the bony fragments lie scattered about it.

INDIAN REMAINS.

There were taken from the gravel bank, on Elm creek, near the mill on Saturday, two skeletons of men who were, in their day, about six and a half feet tall. These remains are now in the hands of Dr. C., C. White, who has made comparisons with ordinary skeletons. The skulls are perhaps, one-third larger than the skull of an ordinary man, very long from the face backward, high cheek bones, heavy under jaw, and the skeletons entire were in a fair state of preservation. These remains were found about eight feet below the surface, the two skeletons near each other and each surrounded by a bed of sand, this in turn by a heavy bed of gravel. Indications are that this was a general Indian burying ground, and it is expected that other remains will be found. No arms or ornaments of any description were found in the vicinity of the skeletons.—[Ohio State Journal, Aug. 30th, 1869.

GENERAL INDEX

VOLS. 8—9—10.

THE FIRE LANDS PIONEER

PUBLISHED BY THE

FIRE LANDS HISTORICAL SOCIETY,

AT THEIR ROOMS IN

WHITTLESEY BUILDING, NORWALK, O.

VOLS. 8, 9 & 10—1867-8-70.

CONTENTS OF VOL. VIII.

	Page.
Address, G. T. Stewart,	29
Cahoon, Celebration	77
Constitution of the Fire Lands Historical Society	119
Dillingham, John, Life of	70
Evenings with the Pioneers	107 to 118
Flemmond, John B	21
Gladwyn, Major, and the Indian Girl	9
Hoyt's Survey	75
Lane, Judge Ebenezer, Sketch of.	49
Lessons of the War	29
Ludlow's Field Notes	16
MISCELLANEOUS ARTICLES—	
Haying and Sparking on Sunday in 1812	94
Mrs. Polly Haskins, the oldest Person in Ohio	95
An Incident of Hull's Surrender	96
Thanksgiving	96
Fifty Years ago	98
Forty Years ago	99
New England in the West	100
A Good and Honest Judge	101
Land Marks Destroyed	102
Married in a Wagon	102
The Last Revolutionary Pensioner	103
Gen. Washington's Last Vote	104
Governor Tiffin	104
The Word Money	105
Ancient Relic	105
An Old Soldier	105
The Original Eight Hour Law	105
Antiquities of Maine	106
Ancient Coffins Opened	106
Antiquities at Worthington, O.	107
Merry Hosmer	28
Members of Firelands Historical Society	74
Meetings—Annual at Norwalk	1
" Quarterly at Greenfield	3
" " " Centerton	5
" " " Townsend	7
OBITUARY NOTICES—	
Platt Benedict	84
Rouse Bly	85
Joab Squires	87
Benjamin Benson	88
Archibald Easter	88
Robert Crow	88
Mrs. Nancy Ransom	88
Pierce, Mrs. Polly, Life of	23
Personal Reminiscences, E. Usborn	26
Remarks at Townsend Meeting	81
Reserve, South Boundary of	13
Reminiscences, Personal	91
Smith, Oolonel James	40
Scattered Sheaves No. 5	61
" " " 6	65
Then and Now, and Steps Between	42
Townsend, Mrs. Kneeland	61
To the Friends of the Pioneer	119
Waggoner Gathering, The	89

CONTENTS OF VOLUME IX.

	Page.
Address of Rev. Zenophon Betts	27
A Relic	113
A Good Suggestion	113
A Truly Golden Wedding,	114
Atwater, Caleb—Western Antiquities	116
A Pioneer's Golden Wedding	112
A Remarkable Discovery	108
A Female Centenarian, Reminiscences of	57
Cahoon Pioneer Celebration	55
Early Lake History	45
Fitchville Township, Notes on,	73
Fitchville, The First Pioneer of	111
Fitchville, Pioneers, Obituary Record,	82
Family Statistics	113
Hours with the Pioneers	14
Interesting Pioneer History	57
Life in New England	101
Life Among the Early Settlers	90
Meetings of the F. L. H. Society	
Annual at Norwalk	1
Quarterly at Fitchville	4
" " Wakeman	6
" " Clyde	10
Merry, Charlotte, Biographical Sketch	59
Members of F. L. H. Society	85
Mother Green	103
Norwalk, Early Settlers of	105
Origin of the Methodist Missions	114
Ohio Capitol in 1817	111
Ohio Valley, Historical Series	109
Obituary Notices—	
William Kelley	93
Mrs. Julia Taylor	93
Mrs. Jane Buchannan	93
Mrs. Elizabeth Delamater	93
Mrs. Grace Prentiss	94
Ammi Palmer	94
Charles Hubbell	95
Ebenezer M. Barnum	96
Samuel Bristol	97
Union White	98
Aaron Rowland	99
John H. Rule	100
William Gibbs,	100
Mrs. Susannah Austin	100
Charles A. Preston	101
John Sowers	101
Plymouth Rock Monument	114
Pioneer Celebration	22
Perkins Township, Notes on the Organization of	43
Revolutionary Soldier, The Last	46
" " One More	111
Stiles, David, A Centenarian	62
Semi-Centenial Anniversary, church in Milan	69
Sandusky and Cleveland, A Commercial Retrospect	76
Seymour John, The Oldest Township Clerk	114
The Old Fashioned Choir	47
The Days when You and I were Young, Maggie	56
The First Wedding on the Reserve	115
The First Prayer in Congress	110
Ten Minutes with the Pioneers	79
The Last Wolf of Huron County	87
Wakeman, Early Settlement of	27
Wakeman, Inhabitants of prior to 1827	58
Wheeler Johnson, Autobiography of	48

CONTENTS OF VOLUME X.

	Page.
Address, Historical, A. D. Skellenger	16
" " Gen. L. V. Bierce,	85
Ancient Temperance Pledge	76
Biographical, Dr. Daniel Tilden	12
Celebration of American Independence at Licking Summit, 1812	94
Danbury, Historical Sketches of	63
Death Penalty	83
Early Times in Mansfield	113
Fire Lands Historical Society	
Annual Meeting 1868	1
Quarterly Meeting at Groton, 1868	2
" " at Sandusky, 1868	4
Quarterly Meeting at Monroeville, 1869	6
Annual Meeting, 1869	7
Quarterly Meeting, New London, 1869	9
First American Flag	79
Fire Lands, Settlement and Organization of	85
First Public Library in the North West Territory	107
GOLDEN WEDDINGS—	
Daniel Chandler	28
Walter Betts	30
Roger Fox	31
Hartland, Notes of	51
Historical Societies of Ohio, Officers of	50
Historical, Letter from ex-Governor Bartley	104
Indian Relics	116
Members of Fire Lands Historical Society	32
Mound Builders in Ohio	75
Mad River Valley Pioneer and Historical Association, Inaugural	89
Madison Township, Lake County	102
Mansfield, Early Times	113
Michigan Antiquities	116
Notes, &c	116
OBITUARY—	
Elijah Bemiss	35
George H. Woodruff	35
Martin Hester	39
Gideon Waugh	40
Seth C. Parker	42
Nelson Taylor	44
John Cherry	46
Wm. H. Crane	46
Lydia Kinsley	48
Daniel Chandler	48
Ebenezer Osborn	49
John Hagaman	49
Ohio, Fifty-four Years Ago	52
Ohio, First Court and its Distinguished Lawyers	62
Over the Left, Origin of	78
Our Old New England Homes	109
Pioneer Whisky	78
Puritan Anti-Tobacco Law	82
Puritan Thanksgiving Dance	82
Recollections of an Old Settler	99
Revolution, Relics of the	115
Sandusky County, First Trial in	60
Selling for Passage Money	84
The Old Black Bull	80
Tecumseh, Anecdote of	101
The Last of Perry's Men	102
Wayne County, First Setters of	55

THE FIRE LANDS PIONEER.

VOLUME XI.—OCTOBER, 1874.

FIRE LANDS HISTORICAL SOCIETY.

ANNUAL MEETING.

MORNING SESSION.

The annual meeting of this Society was held at Norwalk, on Wednesday, June 29, 1870, in the Sons of Temperance Hall. At 10½ o'clock A. M., the meeting was called to order by President Phillips—Vice Presidents Philo Wells, Benjamin Summers and M. Kellogg being present.

The meeting was opened with prayer by F. D. Parish.

The Secretary being absent, Chas. Waterbury, of Sandusky, was requested to act as Secretary *pro tem.*

The minutes of the last meeting were read and approved, after which the report of the Treasurer was read.

REPORT OF TREASURER.

Received of Chas. P. Wickham, (former Treasurer), Sept. 10,	$20 00	
Membership, June 9,	1 50	
" Sept. 8,	7 75	
		$29 25
By order to Secretary,		20 00
On hand,		$ 9 25

There is also due from the former Treasurer $33 67, which, added to the above, makes $42 92.

F. SEARS, Treasurer.

Mr. D. H. Pease then read the

REPORT OF DIRECTORS.

To the Firelands Historical Society:

After many perplexing delays we expect, on July 1, the pleasure of presenting to the Society the 10th volume of the Pioneer. The delay in its issue has been entirely owing to a corresponding delay in canvassers reporting the necessary number of subscribers, and we finally were obliged to order the work printed, depending upon liberal sales to provide for the deficiency.

We are confident that no volume issued by the Society exceeds this in interest, and it only requires the patronage of one-half the members of the Society, even, to render it a financial success.

The want of a safe place for the preservation of our books has long been felt, and during the past year we have succeeded in making an arrangement with the Norwalk Young Men's Library Association, alike satisfactory to both parties.

In accordance with this agreement the Library Association have expended over fifty dollars in providing a suitable case.

The Society holds their receipt for 104 volumes, to which we have since added by binding, eighteen.

THE FUTURE.

As the tenth volume of the *Pioneer* contains the history of Danbury, the last of the thirty-two townships of the Firelands, the present is a fit time to determine the future work and method of operation of the Society. At its organization it was the leading idea to gather and arrange the history of the Firelands up to the year 1820. The committees then appointed have done all that we can expect. The ten volumes of the *Pioneer* are a noble monument to their labors. Many of them are dead, and of those that remain, most of them seek rest rather than labor. If the history is to be continued, to embrace later years, a reorganization of the committee is absolutely necessary.

The fact that local committees have ceased work has also affected the quarterly meetings. They have been gradually growing fewer in number, and during the past year but one has been held. Some settled plan should also be adopted with reference to them at this time. For the purpose of bringing these matters before the Society in a tangible form we recommend—

1st. That the constitution be so amended that a vice president be appointed in each township, and that these vice presidents supercede the local committees hitherto appointed.

2nd. That it shall be the duty of the vice presidents, in their several localities, to represent the interests of the Society and to continue the work of gathering historical material.

3d. The President and directors may call a quarterly meeting in any place when notified by the resident vice president that proper preparations have been made by its citizens.

Opportunity was now given for those present not already members and wishing to become such, to do so, and twelve names were added.

On motion, the Society proceeded to elect a President for the ensuing year, and Judge Z. Phillips, of Berlin, was re-elected. On motion, the President appointed D. H. Pease, Chauncey Woodruff, G. T. Stewart, H. Fowler, F. D. Parish and William Parish, a committee to nominate one Vice President from each township, as required by the amended constitution, and report to the meeting at the afternoon session.

On motion, adjourned to meet at Whittlesey Hall, at 2 P. M., and the pioneers separated, some going to private houses on special invitation to dine, while a large number went over to the St. Charles Hotel, the just pride of Norwalk, and sat down to a glorious repast, not gotten up for the occasion, but the regular bill of fare.

AFTERNOON SESSION.

At 2 P. M., the meeting was called to order in Whittlesey Hall. "Coronation" was sung, Rev. H. L. Canfield, of Peru, on request of the President, taking the lead.

The committee reported the following as their selections for

VICE PRESIDENTS.

Dr. A. D. Skellenger, New London; Major Smith, Clarksfield; E. J. Bunce, Wakeman; A. D. Jenney, Greenwich; J. C. Curtiss, Fitchville; E. J. Waldron, Hartland; Harlow House, Townsend; F. C. Paine, Ripley; Dr. H. W. Owen, Fairfield; Martin Kellogg, Bronson; O. Jenney, Norwalk; F. M. Chapman, New Haven; C. B. Simmons, Greenfield;—Henry Adams, Peru; A. R. Marsh, Ridgefield; J. H. Beelman, Richmond; John H. Niles, Norwich; L. McCrillis, Sherman; E. O. Merry, Lyme; Harvey Sackett, Ruggles; Livy Rash, Groton; Harvey Fowler, Margaretta; Wm. Parish, Oxford; D. G. Taylor, Perkins; Dr. A. H. Agard, Portland; Seth Jennings, Milan; Stark Adams, Huron; Philo Wells, Vermillion; Wm. Tillinghast, Berlin; James C. Judson, Florence;—Addison S. Kelley, Kelley's Island;—John Kelley, Danbury.

On motion of P. N. Schuyler, the re-

port was accepted and the persons named elected Vice Presidents.

Mr. F. D. Parish then nominated F. Sears, of Norwalk, for Treasurer, and he was duly elected. Mr. Schuyler presented the name of A. B. Griffin, of Norwalk, for Secretary, and he was duly elected, and on motion of J. H. Niles, the old Board of Directors was re-elected. The Directors elected are G. T. Stewart, F. D. Parish, Z. Phillips, P. N. Schuyler, D. H. Pease.

On motion of D. H. Pease, P. N. Schuyler and F. D. Parish were re-elected Corresponding Secretaries.

On motion of Mr. Schuyler, Judge B. Summers, of Vermillion, was re-elected Biographer.

D. H. Pease, Esq., then made some remarks in regard to the *Pioneer* and its publication, and arrangements were made for delivering the 10th volume promptly.

The next thing in order being the

EXHIBITION OF RELICS,

D. H. Pease exhibited volume No. 1 of the Christian Observer, published in 1802, a Boston reprint of a London edition, presented by E. G. Gibbs, of Milan. It is a history of the current events of the year 1801. Mr. Pease read extracts from the same. This was considered a valuable acquisition, as a number of later volumes of this work are in the library of the Society. He also exhibited a stay or corset, curiously wrought, presented by Mrs. A. Vail, of Olena, and worn by her grandmother, over one hundred years ago, a most durable article in appearance, and apparently good for one hundred years more; also, a pewter dish, presented by W. C. Fisk, of Berlin, over one hundred and fifty years old and in a good state of preservation. It was brought from Rhode Island by the family; also, a summer hat of fifty years ago, of great breadth of brim and height of crown, and a bonnet of thirty years ago, containing material sufficient for more than forty of the present style of bonnets. These were presented by Miss E. S. Kinney, of Norwalk; also, an elk-horn, some three feet in length, with several prongs, all in a fair state of preservation, presented by E. Butler, of Olena. It was dug up near Rev. W. C. Hustis' place, in Fairfield, while digging a ditch through a swamp. It was found about two feet below the surface.

Rev. F. C. Paine, of Ripley, presented a book over 200 years old, a religious work, containing a catechism of 144 closely printed pages, and a vast amount of good, sound religious instruction, from which much profit might be derived by the present generation.

P. N. Schuyler exhibited a hank or skein of linen thread, hand spun, very fine and smooth, spun by Mrs. Mungen over 100 years ago, and presented by some of her descendents; also, an old book, called by him the history of Twelve as great rascals as ever trod the footstool, entitled the "History of the Twelve Cæzers," and printed in 1607, we believe. This was presented by Judge C. E. Pennewell, of Norwalk.

Dr. Hildreth, of Norwalk, presented some relics and records of the rebellion; a Confederate almanac of 1862, from which he read Confederate accounts of the war; a copy of a newspaper published at Murfreesboro, a little 7 by 9 dingy sheet, one he bought for the purpose of obtaining the latest news, paying twenty-five cents for the same. He read extracts showing the feeling and confidence of rebeldom during the war.

Judge F. D. Parish exhibited what purported to be a copy of the Ulster County (N. Y.) Gazette, of January 4th, 1800, giving an account of the death of General Washington. This was presented to the Society by Mrs. Prentiss, of Monroeville.

After the presentation and exhibition of relics, Judge Phillips gave us a short and pertinent speech, referring to the past history of the Society, and its hopes for the future, and closed by thanking the Society for the confidence reposed in him and the honor conferred on him by choosing him President of the Society for the third time. His remarks were

well received. He called upon the old pioneers present to talk, to tell what had been; and here commenced the Pioneers' love-feast, some three hundred being present to participate or listen. Among the speakers we would mention Judge Fowler, of Margaretta, who addressed the Society, referring to his first visit to Norwalk and the great changes since then.

Hon. F. D. Parish followed with remarks, more particularly in regard to these meetings, connecting the present with the past, and referring especially to the changes during the past fifty years along the route he traversed coming from Sandusky to this meeting.

Judge Summers called particular attention to the biographical part of the Society's publications, considering this now one of the most important things to be attended to, as the old Pioneers are going one by one, as time wears, and it is due to them that short biographical sketches be written of each and every one of them, and published as they pass away, to complete the history commenced by this Society. He also gave a glowing description of the country around Norwalk, and between here and Cleveland, in olden times. He was a strong believer in the *Pioneer*, and was willing to double the cost it had been to him, rather than to have it fail of being published every year.

Philo Wells, of Vermillion, one of the Vice Presidents of the Society, a vigorous, hale, hearty, old Pioneer, gave us a spirited speech. He believed in those old sayings: "Train up a child in the way it should go," and "Love your neighbor as yourself."

Mr. Stratton, of Hartland, spoke at some length. Though not a pioneer, he was early here. He recounted the acts, doings and sayings of his early days, some thirty or forty years since, when he was accustomed to meet the Indians, and neighbors were far apart. He referred to the great change in regard to the use of whisky, which he did not believe in, gave us a good temperance speech, and closed with a whisky story handed down from a former generation: "In the early days, the inhabitants living on the line between Huron and Erie counties, would gather together all the corn they could spare in the spring, and hitching five or six yokes of oxen before the heavily laden wagon, would go to Sandusky and purchase a barrel of whisky for the use of the settlement. On these occasions there was generally a jolly time, as each man must go with his team, and there would be a gay company of them. After a time there was a distillery started at Monroeville, and then there was great rejoicing in the settlement, as whisky could be got without going way to Sandusky. They still continued to gather the corn annually and go for their barrel of whisky. The first spring after the starting of the Monroeville distillery they gathered the corn, and with some four yoke of cattle went to Monroeville. They disposed of their corn, getting for it a barrel of whisky and some dishes needed in the settlement; but while at Monroeville, the party imbibed so much that they became slightly befogged, and on their way home the wagon wheel ran up on a stump, overturned the wagon, burst the barrel and spilled the whisky, and broke all the dishes. Now they were in a fix. No whisky for the summer, and no corn to buy whisky with, as the load taken to the distillery comprised all the spare corn in the settlement. The loss of the dishes was nothing; they had got along without them before, but without the whisky they could not get through the summer. They were, however, obliged to get along without it as best they could; but when fall came, some of them, at least, could not see but that they had got along about as well as though they had had the whisky to keep off the chills, and the speaker knew one man of the number who believed they got along much better without it, and was ever after a strong totaller.

Capt. C. Woodruff spoke of things that transpired nearly fifty years ago. When he was a lad some eight years old, an old Indian and his wife camped near his

father's. The old Indian was sick, not able to be out. They were very poor, and had hard work to get enough to keep them alive. He went over to the cabin one day, and they had just finished a muskrat, shot by the old Indian from his cabin door, his wife having loaded the gun for him. The old Indian struck up a bargain with the boy—the muskrat skin for a loaf of bread; but somehow the Indian never got the bread, nor the boy the muskrat skin, as it was decided at home that it was only a ruse to get the boy there and run him off. In 1838, he, with others, made a raid on some Indian mounds in that vicinity, and dug up two Indian skulls, one full grown, and the other a small one.

Remarks were also made by Rev. F. C. Paine, of Ripley; Martin Kellogg, of Bronson; and several others, but time and space would fail us to publish entire all the good things said at this old folks' meeting, said by those present to be one of the best, there being more old pioneers present than at any annual meeting for years.

After singing "Old Hundred," the meeting closed with prayer by Rev. T. F. Hildreth, and the pioneers and their descendents separated, while spectators wished them all many more happy annual gatherings.

Z. PHILLIPS, Pres't.
CHAS. WATERBURY, Sec'y.

QUARTERLY MEETING.

MORNING SESSION.

The first quarterly meeting of the Firelands Historical Society for the current year was held in the grove near Wakeman Station, Huron County, on Wednesday, September 7th, 1870. A large concourse of people, both old and young, assembled, and at 11 o'clock, President Z. Phillips called the meeting to order. The President requested all of the Vice Presidents present to the stand, and eight or ten of them responded and took seats on the platform. After a few well timed remarks by the President, the meeting was opened by Prayer, by Rev. C. F. Lewis, of Wakeman.

The minutes of the last meeting, the annual meeting at Norwalk in June, were read and approved, after which the Constitution was read, and opportunity given for those wishing to become members of the Society, and over eighty names were added to the list of members.

A large number of copies of the last volume, (volume 10) of the Firelands Pioneer were disposed of.

Dinner was now announced and the meeting adjourned to dine at tables most bountifully supplied by the ladies of Wakeman and adjoining townships in Huron and Erie counties, spread in the grove near the stand. Between four and five hundred partook of such a repast as is but seldom spread before a hungry people, and still there was a large amount of the good things untasted. The Committee of Arrangements and the ladies of Wakeman are entitled to much praise for so faithfully filling this part of the programme. On re-assembling for the

AFTERNOON SESSION.

President Phillips in the Chair, the Wakeman choir sang "O, for a thousand tongues to Sing," to the old tune of Northfield, in a manner that fairly electrified the audience, after which came the

EXHIBITION OF RELICS.

By Mrs. Polly Barnes: A linen table cloth made by her mother 66 years ago; a Kersey table cloth, manufactured by herself; a cake cutter of peculiar construction; a pair of candle sticks purchased at Justin Sherman's store, in Southbury, Connecticut, eighty-six years ago; a woolen blanket that was spun, colored and embroidered by herself before she was married, and having her maiden name, Polly Wheeler, embroidered on it; a wooden bowl, on a card attached to which was the following: "This bowl is exhibited by Mrs. Polly Barnes. On her first arrival in this country, needing more dishes, she went into the woods, procured

the knot, and made the bowl herself, digging it out with a howel; whether it was a good one or not, you can judge for yourselves. It has been in use 45 years."

By Mrs. M. S. Waugh: A sampler, worked by herself in 1807, when she was eleven years of age.

By Roxana Wood, eighty years of age, a pair of linen stockings, spun by herself in Livonia, Livingston county, New York, in 1810.

By Mrs. Samuel Bristol: A Bible published in the year 1608, two hundred and sixty-two years ago, translated into English by Elias Arnold.

By Mrs. Tomlinson, of Wakeman, now seventy-seven years old, her great grandfather's certificate of marriage; his name was Daniel Hyde. This document also contained his family record.

By H. H. Weeks: a wooden heel and back half of a shoe sole found in 1867 in the old store occupied by Uriah Field, in Greenwich, Connecticut.

By Betty Botsford: a pair of extremely small stockings, like unto a pair of doll stockings, worn by Mrs. Emily Whitmore, now of Wakeman, who was born September 24, 1822, a present to her the Christmas following; two infant caps, very diminutive, for the same baby, and a pair of shoes corresponding in size; a set of silver table spoons, fifty-five years old, made of Spanish half dollars.

By Mrs. Sherman Butler, of Wakeman, a table spread, given her by her grandmother, who received it as a present from her grandmother, the spread being 130 years old.

By Abel Whitney: his father's account book, commencing in 1774, parchment covered. The accounts were kept in pounds, shillings and pence. One man's account in this ended with the breaking out of the Revolutionary war, charging him with the washing of one pair of leather breeches, and no further charge until after peace was declared, after which the account ran on regularly again. The family record was also in this book.

By Ormel Parker: a pair of shears that have been in use over 100 years.

By Asa Wheeler, of Wakeman, a stock buckle and shoe buckle of his father's, over 100 years old; a hand saw purchased on the day of the great eclipse, June 6th, 1806; a hand lamp supposed to be over 100 years old.

By John Carter, of Florence, a willow fan, brought from Homer, New York, by Dyar Higgins.

By Geo. Barnes: a book of common prayer, printed in 1806.

By C. H. Weeks: an old account book of Uriah Field's, commencing with 1765.

By Rev. W. E. Baker: Zindel's translation of the New Testament, in 1526, this being a reprint of 1837.

By L. S. Hall, of Wakeman: a photo of Samuel Whitmore, the last slave in Connecticut.

By Cyrus Strong, of Wakeman: a book dated 1798, and entitled "Proofs of a Conspiracy against all the Religious Governments of Europe, carried on in the secret meetings of the Free Mason illuminati and reading societies, collected from good authorities," by John Robinson, A. M.

By Joseph French: a flax hetchel, brought to this country by Silas French, in 1818.

By S. C. French: first ballot box used in Camden Township, Lorain county, in 1835.

By Mrs. E. J. Bunce: sugar-bowl and creamer; part of her mother's dishes over sixty years ago.

By the grand-children of A. C. Hall, L. S. Hall and Mrs. E. J. Bunce: a pocket account book of Asa Hall, dating back one hundred years.

By Abel Whitney, of Wakeman: a warming pan. This pan was brought from France by Abel Whitney's great-grandmother, some time before the French war. How old it is he cannot tell. Abel Whitney is now 73 years old. His father was born in 1653. He has no older record than this, but thinks this pan is over 200 years old.

By George Barnes, of Wakeman, a tinder box about 60 years old, which was used in the first settlement of Wakeman; a

powder horn of 1778, brought from South America by M. D. Randall.

By Sam'l Lewis, Esq., Rev. C. F. Lewis and J. Lewis, a Justice of the Peace's commission to their father, Samuel B. Lewis, of Norwalk, Huron County, dated April 24, 1820.

The first pulpit in the township of Wakeman, built by George Hinman in 1823, was exhibited. It was built by contribution, Mr. Manvel furnishing the lumber, Mrs. Betsy Canfield, Mrs. C. C. Canfield, Mrs. L. Pierce, Mrs. Bristol, Mrs. Dr. Clark, Mrs. Amos Clark, Mrs. Rulson, Mrs. S. Hill and Mrs. B. M. Hill, each giving two pounds of butter to pay for the labor.

After the exhibition of relics, Mr. Philo Wells, of Vermillion, now eighty-six years old, gave something of an account of his pioneer life, his establishing of a furnace in Vermillion township. He also gave an account of his trip to the iron mines of Lake Superior the present season.

The choir then gave us some more old-fashoned music, "While Shepherds watched their flocks by night," to the tune of Sherburne. This was followed by an admirable address by the Rev. B. E. Baker, of Wakeman.

Judge Summers then read the following

BIOGRAPHIC REPORT.

Your biographer has the melancholy duty to perform, which has become one of the important offices of this organization. I had intended to write out a somewhat extended report, but my dexter hand has been disabled, so that I could not at present. Since our annual meeting in June, old Father Time has been very busy with the old pioneers. The first, on July 15th. Our old and esteemed friend Samuel B. Lewis, Esq., one of the three earliest settlers of Norwalk township, at a ripe old age, after a long, laborous, useful, successful life, honored and esteemed by a large family circle and an extensive acquaintance. Two of his sons-in-law, Orlando E. Curtiss and Joel E. Mead followed in a few brief weeks, August 15th, both pioneers, respectable, worthy citizens and christians. How strange a dispensation, which has thus taken away the aged patriarch of the family, from the embrace of his aged partner, and left two families, consisting of bereaved widows and children, all from one family circle, so suddenly. Surely, they need and will have the sympathies and condolence of the members of this Society.

Hon. Charles L. Boalt, son of one of the earliest settlers of the same neighborhood, and himself an old pioneer of Norwalk, has in the same brief time gone to his reward from the midst of his usefulness. Honored, respected, beloved and lamented by an affectionate widow and weeping children, and a very large circle of friends and acquaintances—perhaps I should have said only friends, for who ever became acquainted with Charles L. Boalt but became his friend? He needs no words of eulogy from me to enable you to appreciate him. Stricken, we all bow before the high decree of Him who "doeth all things right"; satisfied that though "clouds and darkness are round about him, justice and judgment are the habitation of His throne."

Since our last meeting, Mrs. James Williams died at Norwalk, one of the oldest pioneers of the Firelands, of whom I have no data to speak.

It is proper to report the departure of Mrs. Bradstreet Stevens, of Oberlin, aged 83, and who died August 23d.

I have not the data or means for writing any extended particulars of the lives and services and successes of those departed ones. No doubt suitable memoirs will be furnished by their friends for publication in the *Pioneer*.

There are probably others who have died, of whom I have made or received no note. I again earnestly request our friends not to neglect giving a short memoir of every one of them. Send to me, at Vermillion, or to the Secretary of the Society, or the President, if more convenient.

Mr. D. H. Pease then said he wished to state to the meeting some facts in regard to the late C. L. Boalt. Mr. Boalt, at the time he was taken down with the

disease, was preparing two papers to be read at this meeting, had collected most of the facts he wanted, and was pushing the work forward with his usual vigor. The last sentence written by Mr. Boalt was on one of these documents, and was: "The members of the Boalt family now living are as follows:—" and Mr. Pease offered the following resolution:

Resolved, That W. G. Lane, Esq., of Sandusky, in connection with the members of the famliy, be requested to complete the biography of the Boalt family and other historical papers commenced by the late C. L. Boalt for the Firelands Historical Society, and that the Rev. Dr. Bronson be requested to prepare a similar report of the late Mr. and Mrs. James Williams, of Norwalk, for this Society.

An extended biography of Samuel B. Lewis, of Norwalk, was read by his son. Samuel Lewis, Esq., of Sandusky, which will be published in the next volume of the *Pioneer*.

The following resolutions, offered by Dr. Skellenger, of New London, were passed:

Resolved, By this Society, that the President request a copy of the address, and also of the article read upon the life and characteristics of Samuel B. Lewis, Esq., deceased, for publication in the *Pioneer*.

Resolved, That the thanks of this Society be, and they are hereby tendered to the Committee of Arrangements and the citizens of Wakeman for their kindness and hospitality on this occasion.

The Choir sang Exhortation—words, "On Jordan's Stormy Banks we Stand"—with fine effect, and the Pioneers separated, feeling that it had been good to be there.

Z. PHILLIPS, Pres't.
A. B. GRIFFIN, Sec'y.

ANNUAL MEETING.

MORNING SESSION.

The eleventh annual meeting of the Firelands Historical Society was held in Whittlesey Hall, Norwalk, on Wednesday, June 14, commencing at 10½ A. M., President Z. Phillips in the Chair.

The exercises were opened with prayer by Rev. H. H. Morrell, of Norwalk.

The minutes of the last meeting of the Society, held at Wakeman, were read by the Secretary and approved.

Judge Summers wished to correct a statement with regard to the age of Mr. Wells, who was 83 at the time of the last meeting.

TREASURER'S REPORT.

Mr. Frederick Sears submitted the following report showing the condition of the finances of the Society:

On hand at last annual meeting,		$ 9 25
Received of memberships, June,		3 00
" of former Treasurer,		33 67
" of memberships, Sept.,		19 50
" by cash, ...		2 46
		$67 88
Paid D. H. Pease, for vol. 10, *Pioneer*, . . .	$40 00	
Same, ...	12 80	
Paid Secretary, . . .	5 00	
Paid D. H. Pease, for vol. 10, *Pioneer*, . . .	2 08	
Paid for Paper, . .	25	—$60 13
On hand, ...		$ 7.75

Messrs. Fowler, Pease, Fairwell and Merry were appointed a Committee to audit the Treasurer's accounts, and found them correct, upon which the report was adopted.

The following report of the Board of Directors for the past year, submitted by Mr. D. H. Pease, Chairman, was received and adopted:

"TENTH VOLUME OF THE PIONEER.

"During the year the tenth volume of the *Pioneer* has been successfully published, the financial result of which is as follows:

Paid publishers, ...	$311 50
Other expenses, ...	37 79
Total cost, ...	$349 29

Received from sales of *Pioneer*,	$293 17
" " Treasurer, . .	42 08
Former balance on hand, . .	14 04
	$349 29

" THE LIBRARY.

" Our arrangements with the Young Men's Library Association, for the preservation and care of our library still continues satisfactory.

Number reported on hand last year,	104
Since added by exchange and bind'g,	33
Present number, ...	137

" These books are carefully kept, and are accessible to the members of the Society daily.

" EXCHANGES.

" One of the pleasant features connected with the work of the Society has been the appreciation manifested by other historical societies and individuals given to historical pursuits. The calls of exchanges have been met, so far as in our power. In this way we have received many valuable and rare books. The following societies and individuals are among those with whom we have reciprocated :

" Essex Institute, Salem, Mass.; New England Geneological and Historical Society, Boston; H. B. Dawson, Historical Magazine, Morrisania, N. Y.; Joel Munsell, Publisher, Albany, N. Y.; Connecticut Historical Society; Pennsylvania Historical Society; Georgia Hstorical Society; Chicago Historical Society;—Iowa Historical Society; Wisconsin Historical Society; Franklin Historical Society of Chicago; Western Reserve Historical Society; Athens County Pioneer Association; Seneca County Pioneer and Historical Society; Licking County Pioneer Society; Mad River Pioneer Association; Robert Clark, Esq., Cincinnati; Wm. M. Darlington, Esq., Pittsburg, Pa.; Isaac Craig, Esq., Alleghany City, Pa.

" ELEVENTH VOLUME OF THE PIONEER.

" Your Board have taken no action with regard to publishing the eleventh volume. There is enough material at command to make a very interesting number, some of which is valuable and ought to be preserved. The cost of publishing will not vary materially from last year, and the subject is respectfully referred to the Society for such action as it may deem proper.

" RE-PUBLISHING BACK NUMBERS.

" It is well known that Vol. I, No. 4 of Vol. II, Vols. III, IV and VI, are entirely out of print, and can no longer be procured. Many now decline to subscribe for the *Pioneer* unless a whole set can be had. To reprint the missing volumes will hardly supply the want, for others will soon be out of print. There is but one satisfactory way of meeting the question, and that is to reprint and issue in bound form the whole ten volumes. The whole put in sufficiently large type would be too large for one book, and should be issued bound in two. To do this and have it pay its way would require one thousand subscribers at five dollars each. Many have offered to pay that for the book in this form. An energetic canvass would probably procure that number of subscribers, for there are few families of any intelligence on the Firelands who would fail to secure it.

" CONCLUSION.

" Your Board have constantly kept in view the necessity of economy in the management of the finances, and are happy to report the Society, as usual, entirely free from debt. We are under many obligations to many efficient working members for encouragement and assistance, and wishing the Society as much success in the future as in the past, we return the trust committed to our hands."

A motion to refer the report to a committee to advise upon the different topics suggested was carried, and Rev. Alfred Newton and Judge Summers were appointed by the Chair for that purpose.

The Constitution was then read by the

Secretary, and an opportunity was given to those present, who desired it, to join the Society. Quite a number of new members were admitted.

The following resolution was introduced by Mr. Shellenger, and unanimously adopted:

WHEREAS, Many pioneers have passed away by death prior to the organization of this Historical Society, and whose lives, characters and deaths have not been noticed in the publications of the Society; therefore, be it

Resolved, That each Vice President be requested to furnish in a condensed form, brief sketches of such as have lived in their respective townships, for publication, who have not heretofore been mentioned.

On motion, a committee of five to report the names of the officers for the ensuing year, was appointed by the Chair, consisting of the following: Captain C. Woodruff, D. H. Pease, F. Sears, O. Jenney, and A. Porter.

The committee to whom was referred the question of re-printing the first ten numbers of the *Pioneer*, requested that the nominating committee should take special care in the selection of the Vice Presidents, who take the place of the former Local Committees, and upon whom devolves the canvassing for the proposed work. A large sum would have to be raised, and good canvassers must be selected to carry the project successfully through.

Judge Summers, the Biographer of the Society, then read the following report, which we re-produce in full, as it contains much that is of interest:

BIOGRAPHER'S REPORT FOR YEAR ENDING JUNE 14, 1871.

The duties devolving upon the Biographer have been attended to with pain and pleasure—pain that so many of the old pioneers have been called from hence during the past year; that we shall no more meet on earth and exchange friendly greetings; no more fight again our battles o'er in social converse; no more enjoy their presence at our Society reunions—pleasure that we hope for a happy re-union above, and that we have such ample provision made in the workings of our Society for putting on record their sufferings and trials, achievements and virtues. To the humble individual on whom has devolved this duty it has become one of love, and although demanding time and some expense, has been ungrudgingly performed.

Our list of the departed of the past year is more than usually long, and includes several of the earliest, most prominent and useful of the pioneers, and is as follows:

Samuel B. Lewis, Esq., one of the earliest pioneers of Norwalk; died in August, 1870, aged about 80.

Orlando B. Curtiss aged 55 years, and Joel E. Mead, aged 54 years, sons-in-law of Mr. Lewis, died August 19th; all in the same month.

Hon. C. L. Boalt and Mrs. James Williams, reported September 2, 1870.

Mrs. Margaret [Lewis] Gibbs, wife of William Gibbs, Esq., of Milan; died Feb. 10, 1870, aged 76 years.

Mr. Thomas Puckrin, of Perkins;—died April 9, 1871, aged 61.

Mrs. Catherine [Van Ness], wife of Simeon C. Carpenter; deceased died at Bloomingville, March 13, 1871, aged 63 years.

Julius House, Esq., one of the first settlers of Perkins; died at Perkins, March 13, 1871, aged 85 years.

Rev. Elder Barber, long and favorably known, died at Florence, February, 1870, aged 69 years.

Clement Beardsley, Esq., one of the earliest settlers of Vermillion, died at Vermillion, May 2, 1871, aged 64 years.

Mr. Sheldon Smith, an early settler of Wakeman, died at Berlin, February 9, 1871, aged about 80 years.

Johnson Wheeler, Esq., an early settler of Townsend, whose autobiography is in the last volume of the *Pioneer*, died at Crown Point, Ind., Sept. 27, 1870, aged 73 years.

Rev. Xenophon Betts, an early preach-

er of the Gospel in Vermillion, and Wakeman, and extensively and favorably known on the Firelands, died at Vienna, Trumbull County, Ohio, May 18, 1871, aged 71 years.

Miss Mary McMillan, for thirty-seven years a resident of Milan, died at that place on the 18th of May, after a lingering illness, her age being 71 years. She was a sister of Hiram and William McMillan, residing with the former until his death a few years since. Though retiring and unobtrusive in her manner, she was highly esteemed by many warm friends, by whom she will be remembered for her kindness of heart and readiness in relief.

Hon. Benjamin L. Hill, an early resident of Berlin, and late Representative of Erie County in the Legislature, died at Marysville, California, May 13, 1871, aged 57.

Hiram Boardman died at East Townsend, Huron County, April 15, '71, aged 65.

Cyrus Lyman, at Norwalk, May 25, 1871, aged about 75 years. Father L. was born in Andover, Tolland County, Conn., in which place he lived until 1848, the year of his removal to this place.—Was married to Miss Mary Tillinghast, of Tolland, in 1843. Three daughters were born to them, all now living in Norwalk. For the past twenty years Father L. was an esteemed member of the Baptist Church in this village. A man who feared God and loved righteousness, he was revered and beloved by all who knew him. His death was sudden and tragic, caused by a fall from his carriage, overturned by some unexplained fright of his horse. In a moment he passed from the presence of earthly loved ones to rest with the Saviour. After a brief funeral discourse from Job XIV:14, his remains were followed to Woodlawn Cemetery by a large concourse. Peace to his ashes.

Stephen Sawyer died in Lyme, in February, 1871, aged 85 years.

Mrs. Polly, wife of Ezekiel Sampson, daughter of Joseph Merrifield, came into New London in 1817, died at Sigourney, Keokuk County, Iowa, in February, 1871, aged 83.

Deacon Daniel Hemmingway died at New London, January 5, 1871, aged 70 years.

Miss Mary Hathaway died at Milan, June 12, 1871, aged 77 years. She came with her father's family, the late Caleb Hathaway, Sen., in the year 1825, and settled on a part of the Jared Ward farm, between Milan and Huron, where she continued to reside till her decease. She left the name of a virtuous, discreet and useful Christian woman, full of charity and good works. She was connected with the Society of Friends. Her end was sudden, supposed to be caused by heart disease.

Respectfully submitted,
B. SUMMERS, Biographer.

At the conclusion of the above report, the meeting adjourned for dinner, to reassemble at half-past one.

AFTERNOON SESSION.

The meeting was called to order by President Phillips. There was a large increase in the attendance at the afternoon session, the hall being full of most attentive listeners.

Judge Fowler reported that some years ago a committee was appointed to have the waters of the Castalia springs analyzed. The first gentleman appointed, Dr. Nye, died soon after his appointment, and at a subsequent meeting in Sandusky, another committee was chosen for the purpose, but nothing was done until Mr. John Hoyt, at his own expense, procured an analysis by Prof. Cassels, of Cleveland, of both springs. Mr. Fowler wished to present the report of Prof. Cassels as the report of the committee.

A vote of thanks was tendered to Mr. Hoyt for his kindness, by the Society.

Mr. W. C. Allen sang "Spirit of Freedom" very acceptably, assisted by a chorus from Norwalk and vicinity. Miss Adda Peters presided at the piano with much grace and ability.

The special committee appointed to report upon the feasibility of reprinting the back numbers of the *Pioneer*, submitted their report which is given below:

The Committee to whom was referred the report of the Directors of the Society, beg leave to recommend the following action:

WHEREAS, It is believed that the whole ten volumes can be reprinted and reissued in two bound volumes, and the whole expense can be met by subscription of one thousand persons at $5.00 each; therefore, resolved,

1. That each of the townships comprised within the Firelands, be canvassed for this purpose before the fall meeting of the Society.

2. That this shall be done by the Vice Presidents of the Society, each one taking charge of the matter in his own township, and being responsible for the prompt and faithful performance of the work, either by himself or some reliable individual.

3. That the President shall immediately issue written notices to the said Vice Presidents, informing them of their duty, and reminding them of the importance of finishing the work so as to report at the September meeting of the Society.

A. NEWTON, } Committee.
B. SUMMERS, }

The Committee on Nominations having prepared their report, submitted it through the Chairman, Mr. Woodruff. The following named gentlemen were unanimously elected officers of the Society for the ensuing year:

President—Judge Z. Phillips.

Vice Presidents—Dr. A. D. Skellenger, New London; Major Smith, Clarksfield; C. C. Canfield, Wakeman; A. D. Jenney, Greenwich; Samuel Palmer, Sr., Fitchville; E. J. Waldron, Hartland; Harlow House, Townsend; D. G. Barker, Ripley; I. B. Hoyt, Fairfield; Martin Kellogg, Bronson; O. Jenney, Norwalk; S. C. Palmer, New Haven; C. B. Simmons, Greenfield; Henry Adams, Peru; A. R. Marsh, Ridgefield; J. H. Beelman, Richmond; John H. Niles, Norwich; Lovell McCrillis, Sherman; E. O. Merry, Lyme; Isaac Sturtevant, Ruggles; Levi Rash, Groton; Harvey Fowler, Margaretta;—William Parish, Oxford; D. G. Taylor, Perkins; Dr. A. H. Agard, Portland;—Seth Jennings, Milan; Stark Adams, Huron; Philo Wells, Vermillion; Wm. Tillinghast, Berlin; Jas. C. Judson, Florence; Addison S. Kelley, Kelley's Island.

Secretary—A. B. Griffin.

Treasurer—Judge F. Sears.

Board of Directors—Z. Phillips, F. D. Parish, Esq., P. N. Schuyler, Esq., C. P. Wickham, Esq., D. H. Pease, Esq.

Corresponding Secretaries — P. N. Schuyler and F. D. Parish.

Biographers—Judge B. Summers and Rev. Dr. Newton.

Judge Phillips thanked the Society for the honor it conferred upon him by re-electing him its President. Although not as old a pioneer as some who were present, still he took as great an interest in the Society. It gave him much pleasure to meet his old brethren, and, taking them by the hand, recount the incidents of Auld Lang Syne. There was once a time when he was personally acquainted with nearly every individual on the Fire Lands, but many of the old settlers had gone to their final rest, and many new settlers had arrived. He again thanked the Society for re-electing him to the honorable office of President of their Association.

He then introduced Rev. L. B. Gurley, of Sandusky, who delivered a fine discourse upon the pioneer ministry of the Firelands, illustrating his address with incidents and anecdotes of those sturdy yeomen who battled so nobly in the cause of the Gospel in early years.

Mr. Gurley said:

Ladies and Gentlemen:—It affords me intense satisfaction to greet you again, and meet once more with you. It is now some nine years since I had the pleasure of meeting with you and addressing my old time friends and companions. Then the country was plunged into all the horrors of civil strife; but now the cloud of war has passed away and I am with you again. Our honored dead, though slumbering in the grave, are not forgotten, as

was testified on that memorial day, when their graves were decorated with the floral offerings of a grateful people. Peace has its harvest of death as well as grim war. Since I last met with you, many a time-honored head has bent beneath the weight of years, and has passed to its last resting place. Many of the friends of my youthful days are now no more. But Heaven's fruit must be gathered, and they have gone from us to where the spirits of the good meet together. Let us hope to see them again in that better world on high. I came here to have a free talk on pioneer work, and especially on the pioneer ministry of the Firelands. I have had no opportunity of ascertaining facts concerning the ministry of other denominations save my own, but hope that others will follow in my wake and do the same.

Sixty years ago this coming fall, I came to this, then a new country, and settled with my parents in Bloomingville. I remember well the old Indian trail that I passed over often when going to the mill or Cold Brook, now Castalia, fearful on the one hand that my bag of corn would fall to the ground and be lost, or that the Indians would come for my scalp.

My absence from this part of the country prevents my having a very extended acquaintance. But I remember Mr. Ward, from whose orchard I got the first trees planted on my father's place. I remember, too, the Abbott family, who were neighbors of Mr. Ward; and the competition between one of Mr. Abbott's daughters and myself in the Sabbath School as to who should get the prize for committing to memory the greatest number of verses from the Bible. It grieves me now to think that I should have been so ungallant as to carry off the prize from a young lady. But that is all over, and now to my subject.

Man must worship; it is as natural for him to do so as it is to breathe the air of Heaven. He may crush his religious feelings as he will, but it is done at his own peril, at the risk of losing his soul's salvation. The sturdy pioneers brought their religion with them over the mountains and into this far western country.—At all times they observed family prayer and praised the Giver of all good for His mercies toward them. It was a difficult matter to raise up ministers of the Gospel in the new country; there was not that opportunity to acquire the learning and extensive reading necessary. It was the revivals we used to have which furnished us our preachers in those by-gone days, and sent them out to preach the cause of Christ. Ministers of all denominations were side by side in the Firelands.

Mr. Gurley spoke of the different ministers who lived in those early days, and with whom he had some acquaintance, and read the names of some of the early circuit riders of the Methodist church.—He continued:

They were intelligent men; it is a great mistake, so common now-a-days, to suppose that the early pioneer preachers were ignorant men. Though not in all instances possessing a classical training, they were all well read men; they had read the solid and useful works. The standard authors of England were as familiar to them as household words.—They also had a good acquaintance with the classic writers. Milton used to be perhaps the greatest favorite with these backwood ministers, and I well remember how they used to electrify their audiences by quotations from this gifted author, and other poets were not less favorites as evinced by the way they used to quote from them. The pioneer preachers were courageous men, and were called upon to brave innumerable hardships;—even the terrors of a scant salary in addition to other trials. In those days a minister could not spend a week in which to write his sermon—he had to preach every day. They too were great singers, much of their moral power coming from their sweet and tender singing. They could sway their hearers to and fro with the power of music. It was like the famed harp of Orpheus which moved both animate and inanimate things with its

sweet strains. And the camp meetings; what great instruments in the hands of the Lord were they, and the great influence exercised by them over the people! What eloquent men the preachers in those days were who could stir the hearts and wake the souls of men as they did. The late Rev. Mr. Judson, of Milan, was one of them, and Russell Bigelow was another I shall never forget. His was not the surface effect, but the deep soul-stirring eloquence of a noble and upright man, the deep inward searching power of whose words had such great effect. His oratory was not human, but a divine inspiration. The speaker named many illustrations of the eloquence of Mr. Bigelow when he turned the hearts of men already nearly calloused by the greed of gain, and showed them the true way of life. He mentioned the deaths of Bishops Thompson, Kingsley and Clark, who were our pioneer ministers. Ministers had their encouragements as well as difficulties in early times. There were men who seemed raised up for no other purpose than aiding their pastor and sharing in his labors. I could refer to many such men in nearly every city and hamlet in Northern Ohio. In former days a clergyman had no home of his own, but now it is no longer the case.

Mr. Gurley then spoke of the magnificent residence of Jay Cooke on Gibralter, which he termed the preacher's home.—To his castle on the rock Mr. Cooke has invited clergymen from far and near, to come and make it their home for a longer or shorter period, thus giving to others a chance to enjoy a share of his liberality. Mr. G. thought the first church built upon the Firelands was erected in Sandusky in the year 1831. He concluded his address by paying a deserved tribute to those noble Christian pioneer women, and their pious efforts in aid of the cause of Christ.

Mr. Gurley embellished his speech with many an apt quotation from well known authors, and throughout the whole of it retained the undivided attention of the large audience.

EXHIBITION OF RELICS.

Mr. Charles Kellogg, of Berlin, exhibited a wooden pitch pipe, in use in Sommers, Connecticut, seventy years ago, and formerly owned by his brother, Amos Kellogg.

Mr. Miner Cole exhibited the following copy of an inscription on a tombstone in the churchyard of Eatonville, Herkimer County, New York: "Alexander, son of Joseph and Lovina Mason, was slain at Sandusky, Ohio, by the Indians, September 29, 1812, aged 33 years, 17 days."

Theron Goodwin, of Oxford, exhibited a copy of the last will and testament of Adam Mott, of Portsmouth, Rhode Island, dated February 2, 1661. This will contains a provision which is never met with now-a-days in such documents, viz: that if any of his sons were cross to their mother they would lose their interest in the estate, which would revert to the mother.

Mr. Ami Keeler exhibited the commission given his father, Luke Keeler, as Coroner, in 1822, for the same office in 1841, both of these being time-worn documents.

He also exhibited a copy of a Bible and prayer-book printed in London, in 1775, by Joseph Bentham, *cum privlegio*.

Mrs. Spear, of Texas, exhibited an editorial on the first court in Ohio, cut from the Sandusky Register in 1843, and also a Texas paper containing interesting matter.

Mr. Martin Kellogg presented a number of old books, the names and dates of the most important are given below:

John Wesley on Original Sin, 1756; J. Fletcher's Appeal, 1772; Nathaniel Dwight's Geography, 1812; Geography of John Hubbard, 1803; Adams' Grammar, 1810; Caleb Alexander's Grammar, 1795; Thomas Dilworth's Arithmetic, 1743; Arithmetic by Nicholas Pike, 1793; English Dictionary, 1797.

Mr. Wm. Crosby, of Greenfield, exhibited a number of Indian relics.

Mr. Martin Kellogg exhibited a copy

of the Agricultural Register, printed in 1808.

Mr. E. G. Gibbs sent in a copy of Kinne's Explanations, 1814, and Jones' Lectures on the Scriptures, 1818.

Rev. H. O. Sheldon, a copy of Sheldon's sermons.

Mr. G. O. Daniels, a copy of Pioneer life in Richland County, being an account of the murder of the Seymour family.

Judge Summers, the Biographer, stated that he wished every one in whose neighborhood an old pioneer should die, to furnish him or Dr. Newton, at Norwalk, a short sketch of his life, in order that it may be preserved in the records of the Society.

Mr. Pease moved that the Rev. H. O. Sheldon be requested to prepare a paper containing an account of his early recollections of pioneer life, and report it to the Society.

Mr. Sheldon being called to the stand, made a few remarks upon his early life on the Firelands. He claimed to be the oldest temperance member in the county, as far as he knows. Mr. Alva Cole was for many years the only one beside him. Mr. Sheldon, in the course of his remarks, named over many of the old settlers. He was the first licensed minister on the Firelands, having been ordained forty-six years ago.

Mr. Sheldon was by a unanimous vote elected an honorary member of the Society.

Dr. A. D. Skellenger thereupon presented the following resolution, which was adopted:

Resolved, That a vote of thanks of the Society be tendered to the Committee of Arrangements, and especially to the citizens of Norwalk, who have invited us to their splendid palaces and made us to partake of their sumptuous repasts on this occasion.

After singing the Doxology, Captain Woodruff leading, by the audience, and a benediction by Rev. Alfred Newton, the meeting adjourned.

Z. PHILLIPS, Pres't.

A. B. GRIFFIN, Sec'y.

QUARTERLY MEETING.

MORNING SESSION.

The quarterly meeting of the Firelands Historical Society was held in Roberts' Hall, at Milan, on Wednesday, April 10, 1872, at which there was a goodly number of the pioneers present.

President Z. Phillips opened the morning session with a few brief remarks expressive of the pleasure it gave him to meet once more the pioneers of the Firelands. While it gave him pleasure, yet there was a sadness connected with it, for many whom he was wont to meet at these annual gatherings have gone to their final rest and will no longer be with us. Mr. Phillips then introduced Rev. Henry Adams, of Milan, who offered the opening prayer, commending the pioneers to the mercy of Divine Providence with the hope that their lives would be spared to meet together in social converse for many years to come.

The minutes of the preceding meeting, held at Norwalk on the 4th day of June, 1871, were read by the Secretary.

Judge Summers suggested that the remark of Rev. Sheldon as being the first licensed preacher, evidently should have conveyed the meaning that he was the earliest Methodist preacher on the Firelands.

The Secretary then read the roll of Vice Presidents, of whom the following six were present: Martin Kellogg, Bronson; Henry Adams, Peru; Levi Rush, Groton; William Parish, Oxford; Seth Jennings, Milan; Jas. C. Judson, Florence.

President Phillips explained that a number of the Vice Presidents were absent on account of sickness, and then called upon the Secretary to read the constitution with such amendments as have been made, after which an opportunity was given to any one to become a member of the Society. Several joined upon payment of the usual initiation fee.

Noon having arrived, the meeting adjourned till half-past one o'clock. Ma-

ny of the visitors were invited to the hospitable homes of the people of Milan, and furnished with an excellent dinner.

AFTERNOON SESSION.

The Society re-assembled shortly before two o'clock, with a largely increased attendance, many from Milan having dropped in to hear the stories of the privations and hardships which the early settlers had to endure, as told by those who came here when this was a new country.

Judge Phillips apologized for the absence of the gentleman who had been selected to deliver the address, saying that he had been called away on business. No arrangements having been made for singing, this pleasing part of the exercises was necessarily omitted.

Judge Summers, the Biographer of the Society, being called upon for his report, prefaced it with the remark that one of the main objects of the Society was to preserve a short memoir of the early pioneers of the Firelands. The biographer depended almost entirely for his information upon facts imparted to him by friends of the deceased. He has been informed that five of the pioneers residing in Peru, have departed this life since the last meeting, of whom no biography has been furnished him. The following is Mr. Summers' report:

Death, the great Reaper, has been busy with the old pioneers during the first three-fourths of the present year of the Society. The friends of the deceased are not all as careful to forward memoirs as is desired. Since our last annual meeting, the biographer, residing in Erie County, has been absent part of the time, and unsettled all of it, which has interfered with his duties somewhat. Hereafter, till the sickle reaches him in turn, he may be addressed at Berlin Heights, Erie Co., O. Here is a partial list of those who have died since the last report:

Mrs. Jane Cuddebank, died at Vermillion, on the 21st of December, 1871, aged 92 years. Mrs. C. has resided at Vermillion for sixty years.

Mr. Horace Ramsdell died at Bloomingville, January 29, 1872, aged 79 years. He was one of the early pioneers.

Mrs. Mary Barnes, died at Margaretta, March 8, 1872. She came to the Firelands in 1815.

There are interesting memoirs of these persons attached, which have been published in the newspapers, and which will appear in the next number of the *Pioneer*.

Respectfully submitted,

B. SUMMERS, Biographer.

In regard to getting subscribers to the re-issue of the first ten volumes of the *Pioneer*, Judge Phillips said that he had succeeded in getting about fifteen, and hoped to secure many more before the next meeting of the Society.

Mr. Kellogg, of Bronson, one of the Vice Presidents of the Society, stated that he had already secured nineteen subscribers to the new work, but doubted if he could get any more, as it was up-hill work on account of the apparently large price asked for the book. Still, he felt encouraged by the success he had met with.

In relation to the eleventh volume of the *Pioneer*, Judge Phillips spoke of the late D. H. Pease, of Norwalk, who was one of the most active members of the Society, and who, before his death, expressed an earnest desire that this volume should be published. It is eagerly sought after by many outside of the Firelands, and with the large amount of material at hand would make a most interesting record of the early days of this State.

Judge Summers moved that the eleventh volume of the *Pioneer* be published, and that arrangements be made to that effect. Carried by a unanimous vote.

Judge Summers then said that he had not been in the lead in getting out the previous volumes, but he had subscribed liberally to the work. He would take three copies of the next number. With the proper effort he said an unusually good volume could be published.

President Phillips said the Vice Presidents should take an active part in can-

yassing for the reprint work and the new number, and report at the annual meeting on the second Wednesday in June.—The cost would not probably exceed $300, and subscriptions could easily be got.

Judge Summers suggested that young men be appointed to do the canvassing where the Vice Presidents would not likely be able to take as active a part as younger men. He therefore offered the following resolution, which was adopted, as being the spirit of his remarks:

Resolved, That the Vice Presidents, whose duty it is to canvass for subscriptions for the eleventh volume of the *Pioneer*, press the matter vigorously, and at the same time get subscriptions for the reprint; and if any one is unable to attend properly to this matter, that he appoint some suitable person in his stead.

Next thing in order were remarks from the old pioneers, relative to their experiences in establishing homes in this region.

Mr. Seth Jennings, of Milan, was first called upon. He gave a brief account of the journey he made from the east, over the mountains to Norwalk, in company with Mr. Benedict, of that place. On his way out he saw many new and strange sights, which filled him with wonder.—The habits of the people in those early days he described very clearly. Mr. Jennings came out in 1817. Speaking of mince pies, he said he doubted if there was a lady present who could tell him how they made mince pies in those early days without apples, beef or molasses.—Mr. Philander Wilbur, of Milan, replied, saying that the ingredients used then were pumpkins and cranberries, venison, and the juice of frozen pumpkins boiled down for molasses.

Mr. Martin Kellogg related the incidents of his journey to this new country. He left home on the 17th of June, 1815, and reached here on the 30th of July following. Now it took a less number of hours than it did days to travel the same distance.

Mr. Henry Hoak, of Berlin, gave some incidents of his early days in this region, and spoke of his frequent trips from home to the mill with his bag of corn. Mr. Hoak's remarks were very interesting throughout.

Mr. Henry Adams, of Peru, briefly related his experience when coming to this western country in 1815.

Mr. L. W. Sanders, of Milan, presented for exhibition a letter yellow with age, written by President Wheelock, of Yale College, to his daughters, in the year 1751. Father Wheelock was an ancestor of the Lockwoods, Mrs. Sanders and Mrs. Eliza Gibbs, of Milan. We publish the letter verbatim:

My Dear Daughters Elizabeth & Theodora:—Yours by Date were welcome. I'm sorry you did not imbrace ye opportunity by him, and ye more on acco't of the distressing sickness at N. Haven. I am desired to be at N. Haven in council on ye 3rd day of September.—It is likely I shall go. What if you should be there at ye time. You will need some time there to visit your friends, &c., before commencement. I'm very greatly obliged to Br & Sister for all their F'dship & Love express d to you, and hope you will not be ungreatfull.—I'm sorry Thed'a uses her pen no more, or don't learn to make a letter, and Betty, you would do well to exercise her somewhat every day in spelling, and teach her how to joyn affability and modesty; to use courtesy to all without servile meanness; teach her a proper gesture, air and deportment in convers'n; how to look a man in ye face when she speaks to him, so as to speak ye same thing as loud and strong by her looks as by her tongue.—Your mother is somewhat poorly. She has tho't that riding may be of servise, and I don't know but she will accompany me to Milford this fall. Give our duty, mother love to Pa and sister, and accept paternal affection yourselves from us both. Dear children, don't forget God; make religion your business, as ye intend to die happy.

I am your Tho'tfull, concerned, affec-'te, Father E. Wheelock.

August 21, 1751.

E. G. Gibbs, of Milan, presented a copy of the Christian Observer, Vol. III, for the year 1804.

In his remarks, Mr. Hoak said that the membership fee should be increased to one or two dollars for life members, or twenty-five cents per year. The present fee was insufficient, he thought, to provide funds enough for the purposes of the Society.

President Phillips stated that the Society had been run very successfully for the last ten years with the fee for life members at twenty-five cents, and did not think it necessary to increase it.

After some debate on this subject, it was decided to bring it up for final action at the annual meeting.

Among the old pioneers present was Mrs. Charlotte Merry, who has attained the advanced age of 91 years. Mrs. M. is one of the oldest pioneers of the Firelands now living.

The meeting adjourned about 4 o'clock, a very pleasant time having been enjoyed by all those present.

The next meeting will be held in Norwalk on the second Wednesday in June.

Z. PHILLIPS, Pres't.
A. B. GRIFFIN, Sec'y.

ANNUAL MEETING.

MORNING SESSION.

The twelfth annual meeting of the Firelands Historical Society was held at Norwalk, Wednesday, June 19, 1872, in St. Charles Hall, commencing at eleven o'clock.

President Phillips was present, and opened the morning session with a few remarks expressive of the pleasure it gave him to meet the pioneers of the Firelands. We should all be thankful to God for His bountiful blessings. Mr. Phillips, said he remembered well the difficulties of the early settlers in obtaining christian privileges. He was glad to live in a land where the people had educational and religious advantages. Mr. Phillips spoke tenderly of those who had passed from death unto life. He hoped to see the Society flourish in the future as in the past. In conclusion, he read the eighth Psalm, after which he introduced Rev. H. H. Rice, of Norwalk, who delivered the opening prayer.

The roll of Vice Presidents was then called, and the following responded to their names: Martin Kellogg, Bronson; Harlow House, Townsend; O. Jenney, Norwalk; Henry Adams, Peru; J. H. Niles, Norwich; E. O. Merry, Lyme;—Livy Rash, Groton; Wm. Parish, Oxford; Stark Adams, Huron; James C. Judson, Florence; Seth Jennings, Milan.

The several Vice Presidents present were called upon, and reported upon the success they had met with in securing subscriptions to the eleventh volume of the *Pioneer*. A large number of subscriptions had been obtained to this volume, and many more can be got when a thorough canvass is made.

SECRETARY'S REPORT.

The Secretary next reported upon the publications that have been presented to the Society since the last annual meeting, prefacing his report with a few remarks upon the reputation the Society has gained abroad. Numberless applications have been made for a complete file of the *Pioneer*, it being considered one of the most valuable works of the kind that has been published. The following is the report:

The Second Annual Report of the Board of Commissioners of Public Charities of the State of Pennsylvania.

Dr. Drake's Discourses. Presented by Josiah Drake, of Cincinnati.

Annual Report of the Minnesota Historical Society for 1871.

Eight numbers of the Historical and Archæological tracts of the Western Reserve Historical Society.

The Annals of Iowa, published by the State Historical Society at Iowa City—July number, 1871, October number, 1871, and January number, 1872.

Wilde's Summer Rose, or The Lament of the Captive. Presented by the Georgia Historical Society.

Ancient Earth Forts of the Cuyahoga Valley, Ohio, by Col. Charles Whittlesey, President of the Western Reserve and Northern Ohio Historical Society.

February number, 1872, of the American Historical Record.

October, 1871, and January, 1872, numbers of the New England Historical and Genealogical Register and Antiquarian Journal.

Wonderful Escape of Col. James Paul.

Miscellanea Genealogica et Heraldic, Monthly Series, June number, 1871.

Proceedings of the New England Historic Genealogical Society, at the annual meeting, January 3, 1872.

Four numbers of the Sheldon Magazine, or a Genealogical list of the Sheldons in America.

The twelve numbers of volume I, and ten numbers of volume II, of the American Pioneer. This monthly periodical dates its first publication in 1842.

Journal of the American Silk Society, in twelve volumes volume one bearing date 1839.

Methodist Chapel-Property Case.—Report of the trial.

A Review of the Decision of the Sueme Court of the State of Ohio as to the title of church property vesting in ministers of the Methodist Episcopal Church.

Report of the case of Price and others vs. The Methodist Episcopal Church and others. Tried in Hamilton County Supreme Court, May Term, 1831.

Report of the trial of Sherman vs. Rusling in the District Court of the City of Philadelphia.

Eleventh Edition of Sheldon's Sermons.

The preceding eight documents were presented to the Society by Rev. H. O. Sheldon.

Volume three of the Christian Observer, published in the year 1804. Presented to the Society by E. G. Gibbs, of Milan.

A letter was read from the Librarian of the Mercantile Library, Baltimore, requesting a copy of the publications of the Society.

Judge Phillips spoke of the value that attaches to the copies of the *Pioneer*.

TREASURER'S REPORT.

The Treasurer, Frederick Sears, presented the following report showing the financial condition of the Society:

Cash on hand at last statement, .	$ 7 75
Amount received for membership at Norwalk, ...	3 25
Amount received for membership at Milan, ...	2 75
Total, ...	$13 75

Contra.

Paid exp. charges on magazines,	$ 35
Amount on hand, ...	13 40
Total, ...	$13 75

On motion the report was accepted.

The Secretary, as is customary, read the Constitution, after which an opportunity was given those present, not already members of the Society, to join. Quite a large accession was made to the membership.

Previous to adjourning for dinner, the following Committee on Nominations—three from each county—was appointed: Chauncy Woodruff, P. N. Schuyler, W. C. Allen, Judge Parish, Judge Summers, and Seth Jennings.

At twelve o'clock, the Society adjourned for dinner, many of those present from abroad being cared for by the good people of Norwalk.

AFTERNOON SESSION.

The attendance, which had been quite large in the morning, was very much increased at the afternoon session. Shortly after two o'clock, the meeting was called to order by President Phillips in a few well chosen words. He regretted that no provision had been made for singing.

Mr. Woodruff, Chairman of Committee

on Nominations, presented the following report:

President—Judge Z. Phillips.

Vice Presidents—New London, Dr. A. D. Skellenger; Clarksfield, Major Smith; Wakeman, C. C. Canfield; Florence, Jas. C. Judson; Vermillion, Lewis Wells;—Berlin, E. P. Hill; Townsend, James Arnold; Hartland, E. J. Waldron;—Fitchville, Samuel Palmer, Sr.; Greenwich, Wm. T. Smith; Ripley, D. G. Barker; Fairfield, Oscar Burras; Bronson, Martin Kellogg; Norwalk, D. D. Benedict; Milan, Seth Jennings; Huron, Stark Adams; Portland, A. H. Agard; Perkins, D. G. Taylor; Oxford, William Parish; Ridgefield, A. R. Marsh; Peru, Henry Adams; Greenfield, Andrew Coit; New Haven, Erastus Dickinson; Richmond, Uriah Robinson; Norwich, John H. Niles; Sherman, Alanson Raymond; Lyme, E. O. Merry; Groton, Livy Rash; Margaretta, Harvey Fowler; Danbury, John Kelley; Kelley's Island, Addison S. Kelley; Ruggles, Harvey Sackett.

Recording Secretary—S. A. Wildman.

Treasurer—Frederick Sears.

Board of Directors—Judge Z. Phillips, F. D. Parish, John H. Niles, Judge B. Summers, and G. T. Stewart.

Corresponding Secretaries — P. N. Schuyler and F. D. Parish.

Biographer—Benjamin Summers.

Committee on Publication—Board of Directors.

Judge Phillips said he had it in his mind before he came here to decline serving another year, but he had enjoyed himself so much that he would accept it. It seemed at one time as if the interest in the Society was on the decrease, but the attendance this afternoon changed that impression. A good list of Vice Presidents had been selected, and there was every prospect that the eleventh volume of the *Pioneer* and other publications now in contemplation will be brought out. Judge Phillips then called for the

BIOGRAPHER'S REPORT.

There is much remissness on the part of the survivors in regard to giving the biographer the necessary notices of the death and former history and trials of the departed. I repeat, the old pioneers are passing away. It would be but little trouble for some one or more in every township to carefully gather up the little crumbs of history pertaining to each, and transmit to the biographer, or send them in to the Secretary of the Society. It seems that some younger men might take this labor and finish up what their fathers have so successfully begun. It will soon be said of us gray-headed old men —"And the pioneers, where are they?" At the risk of the charge of repetition, I must still urge more diligence in furnishing memoirs and notices of deceased pioneers.

Mr. Neverson Sherman died at Hudson, Michigan, May 27, 1872, aged 67 years. He came to the Firelands in March, '17, and settled in Townsend township. He was long a resident of Florence. He passed through Norwalk when a boy, and sat down to rest on the logs from which was built the first log house of our much respected former President, P. Benedict, Esq.

Elihu Clary died at Lambertville, Monroe County, Michigan, in September, 1871, aged about 83 years. He came to Peru township, Huron County, in 1815, and was long and favorably known as an enterprising and useful pioneer and citizen. During the latter years of his life he was a useful and worthy member of the M. E. Church. I have not the data to make further statements.

Joseph C. Curtiss, another worthy pioneer, died in Fitchville, September 4, 1871, in the 69th year of his age.

Mr. Kellogg furnishes the following record of the deaths of many of the early settlers on the Firelands:

Aaron Fay, my wife's father, died October 16, 1845, in Avery, now Milan.—His wife, Rebecca Winslow Fay, died February 28, 1830, in Norwalk. Dr. Lyman Fay died in Milan, September 4, 1854. Lucius Fay died in Norwalk, September 13, 1858. Apollos Fay died

in Norwalk, March 21, 1861. Polly Fay, wife of Martin Kellogg, died in Bronson, April 1, 1866. For time of settlement of these, please see *Pioneer*, vol. V, pages 21 and 113.

The following is taken from the Norwalk Reflector of April 17, 1866:

Died, in Bronson, on the 1st of April, Mrs. Polly Kellogg, wife of Mr. Martin Kellogg, aged 77 years and 8 months.—The deceased removed with her husband to this County from Bethel, Windsor County, Vermont, in July, 1815, hence has resided almost fifty-one years here.—Mr. and Mrs. K. were the first permanent settlers in Bronson township. Truly may it be said of the deceased, "She was a Pioneer of the Firelands." It is difficult for those of us who came to the west at a much later period, and after the country was comparatively broken, to even imagine the changes—to say nothing of the hardships and privations incident to her early removal to the west—that she experienced in all that time. The deceased was born in Barnard, Windsor County, Vt., July 12, 1788.

I did not think Norwalk and Milan were as thoroughly canvassed as they ought to have been, accordingly at a late day I endeavored to get some items from those towns. (See *Pioneer*, vol. V, page 21, and vol. VII, page 58.)

Quite a number of families from Barnard, Vermont, settled on the Firelands. Father Fay and family were the first from that town, and probably were the cause of the coming of most of the others. As I have pen in hand it will do no harm to name some of those families: Steward Southgate and his son, R. S. Southgate, and his family; Prince Haskell, Jr., and family, and later, Prince Haskell, Sr., and part of his family; Moses Foster and family; Benjamin Briggs and family;—Dean Clapp and David Clark and families; Aro Danforth and family; Carlos Keith, brother of Mrs. Southgate. Prince Haskell, Jr., settled in Bronson; both he and wife deceased years ago. Prince Haskell, Sr., settled in Peru; he and wife deceased years ago. Foster, Clark, and Clapp settled in Peru; deceased, and widows living in Peru; Briggs settled in Norwich; his wife a widow, lives in Norwalk township. Aro Danforth settled in Peru; he and wife both living. Keith lives in Kansas. All those named above were worthy and industrious men.

Yours truly,

MARTIN KELLOGG.

Norwalk, April 18, 1872.

Died, in Oxford, Theodia Smith, wife of Benj. P. Smith, December 5, 1871, aged 82 years. She came to the Firelands in August, 1821. She was born in Waterford, Conn., lived a christian life and died the death of the same.

Benjamin P. Smith died in Oxford, February 17, 1872, aged 82 years. He came to the Firelands in August, 1821.

Mrs. Jane Cuddebank, whose death was reported at the Milan meeting, the family records show was 94 years of age, instead of 92, as then stated.

B. SUMMERS, Biographer.

Judge Phillips spoke in very feeling terms of the late D. H. Pease, whose services in the interest of the Society were always enlisted.

N. S. C. Perkins, an intimate friend of Mr. Pease, spoke of the work he had done for the Society, and read the following sketch of his life:

Mr. Pease was born in Somers, Conn., November 9, 1826, and consequently was in the forty-sixth year of his age at the time of his death, January 13, 1872.—His early years were spent in his native town, and in addition to such knowledge as he could obtain at the public school, he pursued his studies for two years at the village academy at Wilbraham, Massachusetts. He came to Norwalk in 1852, and was engaged in the book and drug business until 1863, when he was elected County Auditor, and filled that position for three successive terms, until 1869, since which time until his death he was actively engaged in merchandizing. So few words express in general terms the story of Mr. Pease's life. He was not a man to limit his cares or his labors to his

own or his family's well-being. With an earnest desire to promote the welfare of all within the reach of his influence, he combined a rare judgment, an indomitable perseverance and remarkable efficiency. While yet a young man he determined to do what one man could to promote the cause of temperance, and his time and labor and counsel have been freely given year after year to further this great object. He was active in the formation of the Young Men's Library and Reading Room Association, and to the time of his death was one of its most efficient and valuable officers. His interest in the Firelands Historical Society was unflagging for years. His duties as Secretary of the Society and editor of the *Pioneer*, occupied much of his valuable time, and this he freely gave from some time in the year 1860, when he was chosen editor of the *Pioneer*, to the time that he was compelled by weakness to lay aside his pen. In early manhood, he made up his mind that whatever was excellent in character or elevating and ennobling in tendency, was usually connected with the Christian church. He therefore sustained the public worship of God by his example and generous contributions, and his counsel and personal presence could always be depended upon in sustaining the Sabbath School. Such characters as Mr. Pease's are not common; it is only here and there that such a one is vouchsafed to a community. Genial and happy in his home, a kind neighbor, a wise and faithful citizen—we miss his presence in our aasemblages; we miss his counsels and his labors. Let us imitate his example and emulate his virtues.

EXHIBITION OF RELICS.

There was a large number of interesting relics of "ye olden time" exhibited, which may be briefly enumerated as follows

Mrs. Hill, of Townsend, presented to the Society a table castor, made of an oak knot more than 200 years ago. It was given to her daughter by Mrs. H. W. Shaw (Josh Billings), some time ago.—Mrs. Hill also exhibited a pewter platter, which was by far the oldest relic in the room. It has been in the possession of five generations of the same family. It was made in London over 250 years ago.

E. G. Gibbs, of Milan, presented the Society with the following books: Life of Henry Winter Davis; the 12th volume of the Christian Observer, printed in 1814; a Geography, edited by Nathaniel Dwight, and published in 1814.

E. J. Bunce had a piece of "hard-tack" on exhibition that was carried through the battle of Bull Run by Lieut. C. E. Miner.

A child's skirt, spun, woven, made and embroidered by Mrs. Stocking, of Chatham, Conn., March 19, 1759, and used for a christening skirt on several occasions, was exhibited by Mrs. D. C. Norton, a great-granddaughter of Mrs. Stocking. This relic was closely examined by the ladies, who wished to see for themselves the way they performed their work in the early days of America.

Miss Eveline Eaton exhibited a napkin that was made from linen cloth furnished for shrouds for the British officers killed in the battle of Lundy's Lane.

Mrs. Roby A. Fisk, of Berlin, exhibited a copy of a Geography, published in 1818, by Jedediah Morse, D. D.

A Garden Hoe and its history were furnished by Mrs. M. E. Osborne. The hoe was made in 1810, in Pennsylvania.

Judge Parish presented a fac simile copy of the Declaration of Independence; a book about 200 years old, entitled, "The Misery of Departed Spirits of the Unregenerate in the Prison of Hell;" and a Hymn Book that was 150 years old.

Mr. Newman had on exhibition a Land Warrant for 100 acres, executed February 24, 1806, in favor of Mary Luther, heiress-at-law of Peleg Luther, in consideration of his military services. The document, which was on parchment, was signed by Thomas Jefferson, President, and James Madison, Secretary of State.

John H. Niles exhibited a number of Indian relics, supposed by him to have been made thousands of years ago. He

gave a few remarks upon the meaning attached to the symbols, for symbols he considered them to be.

The history of the Universalist Denomination on the Firelands was read by M. Kellogg, of Bronson. Mr. K.'s address was very interesting to many present.

Wm. C. Allen said that in searching through the Court House, he had found the first Court records and other interesting objects. One was a small volume containing the record of the first marriage licenses issued; of official oaths and of strays taken up; also, of the organization of societies. Another was the Journal of the Supreme Court, the first record being in September, 1818. The Journal of the Court of Common Pleas, commencing October, 1818, contained the first murder trial on the Firelands, which took place in May, 1819. The Indians were tried, convicted and hung. This trial and hanging are remembered by many of those present.

The absence of singing and the address which before had been one of the chief features of the meetings of the Society, were remarked upon by Mr. Woodruff, and President Phillips explained that it had been impossible to provide for those things.

Blank subscription papers were handed to the Vice Presidents who are to canvass for subscriptions to the next volume of the *Pioneer*.

An invitation having been extended by the people of Townsend to have the next meeting of the Society at that place, the meeting was adjourned to meet there on the second Wednesday in September next.

Z. PHILLIPS, Pres't.

A. B. GRIFFIN, Sec'y.

QUARTERLY MEETING.

MORNING SESSION.

The quarterly meeting of the Firelands Historical Society was held in the Town Hall, Townsend Center, on Wednesday, the 11th of September, 1872. In the absence of the President, Dr. A. D. Skellenger, one of the Vice Presidents, called the meeting to order and took the chair. The Secretary also being absent, —. Johnson, of Townsend, was appointed Secretary *pro tem.*, and F. D. Parish, assistant. The session was opened with prayer by Rev. Geo. L. Hanawault, followed with music by the choir. Appropriate and interesting remarks were made by Dr. Skellenger, Judge Summers, and the venerable Philo Wells, Esq.

The minutes of the annual meeting were then read, and after amendment were approved.

Relics were then presented, as follows:

By Isaac Trimmer, of East Townsend, a Tin Teapot, used at the time the tea was thrown overboard in Boston harbor; "The Instructor, or Young Men's Best Companion," a small volume printed in 1775; "The Trader's Assistant," printed in 1784; A Family Bible, printed in 1724; six Linen Napkins, made by Mrs. E. Trimmer's mother, 81 years ago.

By another citizen of Townsend, a large volume of English Statutes in black letter, in force between the adoption of Magna Charta, in the 8th year of Henry III., and the 35th year of the reign of her most Gracious Majesty, Queen Elizabeth, published in 1594.

By Henry Marshall, of Townsend, a Mirror, bought by his father in 1782; a Pepper Box, bought by Sarah Tucker 90 years ago; a white linen Bed Spread, embroidered 135 years ago, (an elegant article.)

By Harlow House, a glass Salt Dish, 42 years of age; a little earthen mug, 50 years old; a small earthen pitcher, 50 years old.

By A. Farley, a tin Bread Tray, 60 years old; a Skillet (small size), from 80 to 100 years old.

By O. H. Vantassle, a steel Tobacco Box, carried by his grandfather in the Revolutionary War; a brown, figured earthen platter, 150 years old; a woolen coverlet.

At this stage of the proceedings, recess till 2 P. M. was taken, and the whole

large assembly was escorted by the committee of arrangements to the spacious hall on the first floor of the Hall, in which were spread three tiers of tables loaded with nearly every variety of eatables, in the greatest abundance. It should here be recorded, to the credit of the citizens of Townsend, that those provisions, in quantity and excellence, have rarely, if ever, been surpassed at any meeting of the Society.

The Town Hall is of brick, 54x36, with two stories. The first floor is divided into one large room for school uses and a spacious entrance with two flights of stairs to the second floor, which is appropriated entirely for an audience room, including a raised platform. It is the product of the liberality, public spirit and enterprise of the people of Townsend, and should stimulate the citizens of every township to similar enterprise and public spirit.

AFTERNOON SESSION.

At 2 o'clock the Society came together again with greatly increased numbers in attendance, the audience room being now filled to its utmost capacity.

Hon. B. Summers read the following

BIOGRAPHICAL REPORT.

Firelands Historical Society:

Your biographer has not a long list of departed pioneers to report at this meeting. It is but three months since our former report, and the friends and neighbors of those who have gone have not been careful to forward the proper information. It is much to be regretted that there is so much apathy on this subject.

Mrs. Rebecca Phillips, relict of the late Joshua Phillips, died at Berlin Heights, Erie County, after a long and distressing illness, August 2, 1872, aged 94 years, joyous in the hope of a glorious immortality through Christ the Lord.—The deceased was born at Weston, Mass., in 1780, and was married at Roxbury in 1803. They came from Lima, Livingston Co., N. Y., in the fall of 1817, and settled in Berlin township, Erie Co., and consequently she had resided on the Firelands almost 55 years. She was for the last few years of her long life totally blind, and partially deaf, but her memory and mental powers were in a remarkable degree preserved to the last. Like most of the early settlers, they were mostly dependent on their strong hands and wills to use them for success, and bravely and cheerfully they won it.

Her worthy husband was a Baptist elder of the primitive type that wanted no Rev. prefix to his name, nor presents even, nor salary for his preaching; who, staff in hand, made his journey to the neighboring settlements, five, ten, or twenty miles around, on foot, and preached on the Sabbath, and returned to his six days labor on his lot, or at his trade of stone-mason whenever he wanted.—Being a hard worker, he thus deprived himself of the day for rest, and he was admonished that it was wearing him out prematurely. His constant reply was, "Better wear out than rust out." He was a useful minister, and died many years ago. They had seven children, five of whom survive, highly respected and useful, and amongst whom is the President of the Firelands Historical Society, Hon. Z. Phillips.

In consequence of her husband's frequent absence from home, much of the training of their family devolved on her, and well did she succeed, judging by the results. She was a Mother in Berlin;—always kind and considerate to her neighbors; cheerful and benevolent at home, and emphatically a working woman; one of a class who "laid their hands to the spindle, and whose hands held the distaff, who were not afraid of the snow for their households, for they were clothed." Her children rise up and call her "blessed," and most filially and tenderly smoothed her passage to the tomb. Like a shock of corn fully ripe, she is gathered to her fathers. However much kind friends and weeping children might desire her longer to tarry on earth, it was far better for her to depart to her long looked for

home in Heaven. She had fought the good fight, and we trust has gone to the reward of those who, "by patient continuance in well doing, seek for glory, immortality and eternal life."

Her funeral was attended by a very large and sympathizing assembly of friends and acquaintances at the Baptist Church on Sunday, the 4th inst. Sermon and services by Rev. Mr. Corwin, of Norwalk, from the words, "Consolation in Christ," which was listened to with the closest attention and great satisfaction.

B. SUMMERS, Biographer.

Mrs. Burnham, relict of the late Moses Burnham, died in West Creek township, Lake Co., Ind., about August 21, 1872, aged about 76 years. Mrs. B. was one of the early pioneers, and came to Berlin township with her husband in 1818, and settled in the woods on Burnham hill.—She had several children, most of whom survive and hold respectable, and some of them prominent positions in society.—She and her husband were of the old Connecticut, rural, industrious, economical, thrifty stock, and well performed their part in the great work of redeeming the Firelands from their pristine and rugged state. About fifteen years ago they emigrated to Indiana, where both have since deceased, leaving a precious memory, and highly respected. The writer, a year ago, was in the enjoyment of the liberal hospitality of the family, she then residing with her daughter, Mrs. Bacon; and she came to Ohio with him on a visit to her old home and neighbors, which she and they greatly enjoyed.

Died, in Peru, on the evening of September 3d, 1872, Levi R. Sutton, aged 78 years, less four days. He was born in Fayette County, Pa., on the 7th of September, 1794; settled in Peru in April, 1817. Mr. Sutton was a very worthy man, enjoying the respect of all who knew him; and the confidence of his fellow-townsmen was such that he held the offices of Township Clerk and Justice of the Peace many years, say 30 or more. For a number of years Mr. Sutton had been very feeble, and his health very poor. No doubt his life had been prolonged some years by the most careful and kind treatment he received from the wife of his youthful days, who survives him, and the kind care of a daughter who has remained at home to share with her mother the care and attendance upon her father.

M. KELLOGG.

Bronson, Sept. 9, 1872.

Eighteen names were then added to the list of the members of the Society, which will appear in the next *Pioneer*.

Rev. Geo. L. Hanawault gave us an impromptu address of marked ability and eloquence, which was listeded to with earnest attention and approbation. Then followed brief remarks upon the early settlement of Townsend, by Wm. Hyde and others.

At intervals the choir entertained the large audience with music rendered with much more than ordinary skill and ability, accompanied with a cabinet organ by Rev. Mr. Hanawault.

The Society is much indebted to the committee of arrangements, citizens, and to the choir, which added greatly to the interest and profit of the meeting.

Judge Summers introduced the following resolutions, which were adopted by hearty responses of approval:

Resolved, That the choir of Townsend and others have our thanks for the beautiful music furnished for this occasion.

Resolved, That the thanks of this Society are hereby given for the able address delivered by Rev. G. L. Hanawault, and a copy is requested for publication.

Resolved, That the Society return grateful thanks to the hospitable people of Townsend and vicinity, and to the committee of arrangements, for the abundant and liberal entertainment made in our behalf.

Adjourned to meet at Bellevue on the second Wednesday in December next, at 10 o'clock A. M.

F. D. PARISH,
Assistant Secretary pro tem.

QUARTERLY MEETING.

MORNING SESSION.

The quarterly meeting of the Firelands Historical Society was held in Bellevue, according to adjournment, on Wednesday, December 11, in the Lecture Room of the Methodist Church. The President, Judge Phillips, being present, called the meeting to order, with a few appropriate remarks. The exercises were opened with music by the choir, and prayer by Rev. M. Hamilton.

The minutes of last meeting were read, and after some slight amendments, approved.

The Secretary being absent, H. F. Baker was chosen Secretary *pro tem.* The meeting then listened to the following words of welcome from Rev. E. Persons:

Mr. President, Fathers and Brothers:—It was deemed best by your Committee that I should say a few words of welcome on this occasion, and I do so with great pleasure.

We welcome you to our thriving village in this your quarterly gathering, once again in the spirit of the work you have done.

The proud planter who rides through the sugar groves of Florida, cares little for the submarine labors of the "toilers of the sea," who laid the foundation of his estate in the coral formations. But we esteem, we venerate those men and women whose patience, self-denial, untiring energy and boaunding hope, laid broad and deep the foundations of the palace of civil and religious life, in whose gilded halls we are privileged to dwell.

I need not specify the individual experiences whose aggregate result is what the Firelands to-day enjoy. Indeed, I cannot. They form a part of yourselves, a segment of your life, and to-day you purpose to live over again the joys of those days, without the sting of the sorrows.

On the whole, the advantage is largely yours. [The sacred writer pronounces the experience in the ways of righteousness indicated by the silvery hair, a crown of glory.] A world of reminiscences, lightened by Memory, opens all its lanes and avenues to your welcome feet, while we are politely shut out, and you still retain a kind of reversion in all the achievements of modern progress, and can say of them as Lyman Beecher said to one complimenting his son: "If it had not been for me you would not have had him."

We welcome you as a Pioneer Association, for the work you are doing—presenting in permanent form the experiences, incidents and relics of our own early history. What a help to the historian like Prescott would have been a Pioneer Association among the Aztecs or early Indians. But they and their wonderful history alike are buried. You have two antagonists: the first, a spirit of indifference which underrates all familiar experiences and objects. A young man lived till eighteen within hearing of Niagara without visiting it. He never learned till he went abroad that the world stood in awe before the grandeur of the great cataract. He declared to my informer that if he ever reached America he would visit the watery giant and seek pardon for his neglect.

The second, an attachment to the heirloom and relic, so strong as to overcome any faint desire to give them a place in the cabinet of antiquities. Many a fine collection, taken together, has been rendered of no great interest to anybody, by being scattered item by item to friends and relatives. The labor and pleasure of a lifetime are then wasted in a single generation.

Keep them together, and for ownership adopt the law of primogeniture, or better, cast lots or toss coppers for the possession as best. Place in a cabinet where the generations to come shall receive its combined value. Anything is better than to have them conquered in detail by forgetfulness and oblivion.

But you have great encouragements, and greatest among them the example of nature's All-wise Creator. Scientists tell

us God seems anxious that man should learn his wonderful alphabet, and read the volumes of his works. To aid us he has taken certain species and continued their existence beyond all their genus, age after age, till man should be able to trace out by this index the earlier forms of animal life, just as we treasure medals and coins of the Revolution, or the Alexandrian period. Such is the pearly Nautilus that has sailed down through the ages of Fishes, Reptiles and Mermaids, to the time of man.

In behalf of those who can never be Pioneers, I have a request to offer: That you consider whose fault it is that we were not earlier present to win the honors, and blame us not, but cheerfully, with hopeful outlook, transfer your inheritance to us. We will not dishonor our heritage. While the chariot of Israel and horses of fire are in waiting, drop your mantle upon us wherewith we may smite the Jordan of life's river, for you have homes "prepared for you" by One who has been more than your Pioneer.

May the Union to-day awaken only happy memories.

Upon motion, Mr. Persons was invited to furnish the Secretary a written copy of the substance of his remarks for publication.

Reference was then made by the President to the necessity of more subscriptions to the Firelands *Pioneer*, in order to get out the eleventh number, and to the extensive call for the same all over the country. Verbal reports were made by the Vice Presidents present as to the number of copies each would take, from which it appeared that about one hundred and fifty copies had been subscribed for.

Mr. P. N. Schuyler, member of the Committee on Publication, made a statement to the effect that it was usual to publish one thousand copies, costing from $300 to $500, and that it was necessary for some parties to assume the responsibility. Generally the Committee waited until enough copies had been subscribed for to assure the success of the undertaking, then go ahead and make the necessary contracts for its issue. He said also that there was enough matter already on hand to make the eleventh number the most interesting of all, and that as soon as subscriptions enough were secured, or some one came forward and pledged the necessary funds, it would be issued.

After music by the choir, adjourned to 1½ o'clock P. M.

AFTERNOON SESSION.

Meeting called to order by the President. Music by the choir.

An essay was then read on the early history of Bellevue, by Hiram Baker, also a memorium of John Baker, one of the earliest settlers in Lyme.

An essay on Pioneer Life was read by Rev. E. Persons, written by Mrs. H. R. Adams.

Personal anecdotes and reminiscences were related by Mr. Phillips, H. R. Adams, and Bourdette Wood. Mr. John Seymour spoke of the necessity of public improvements for the development of a country.

P. N. Schuyler introduced the following resolutions in relation to Horace Greeley, which were adopted:

Resolved, That as pioneers and patriots, we deem this a fitting occasion, and cannot but express our sorrow caused by the death of our friend, Horace Greeley, the friend of his race.

He was the Tribune of the people, and with sacred vigilance guarded their rights. As an editor and public censor he taught decency to the demagogue, patriotism to the partisan, and philanthropy to the politician. He aroused the common sense and virtue of the nation to the battle for Freedom, and led the van in the onset upon and overthrow of Slavery.

His name is and ever will be the synonym of industry and energy, benevolence and integrity, of truthfulness, temperance, mental excellence and worth. We know not which most to admire, his wonderful

energy, or his heroic, unyielding, undeviating devotion to truth and right.

In private or in public life, at home or on the rostrum, as the father, the friend, the citizen, the statesman, and the philosopher, he was ever the same model man—the unique, unrivaled, the great Horace Greeley.

His name and his character belong to his country, and we will ever cherish his memory with grateful affection and national pride.

The following interesting relics were then exhibited:

A piece of Continental money, presented by D. Moore.

A linen Table Cloth, spun and woven by the grandmother of Mrs. George Sawyer.

A beautiful Tobacco Box made of stave work, in different colored wood, and lined with lead, two hundred years old, presented by Joseph Wood.

A solid silver Cream Pitcher, Sugar Tongs and Teaspoons, one hundred and fifty years old, presented by Mrs. J. Wood.

A Bible, one hundred years old, presented by Mr. J. Wood.

Another one, rather the worse for wear, sixty-eight years old, presented by Mrs. Lathrop.

A miniature of Capt. Dupuy, painted on ivory, with his hair in the back, and framed in gold, was presented by Mrs. Geo. Sawyer; also, the bullet, very much flattened, that killed him.

A Powder Horn, carried through the French Revolutionary War, two hundred years old, presented by John R. Hall.

Mr. J. Haskel presented a Cannon Ball, picked up on Bunker Hill in 1868; also, an Indian Pipe, belonging to the Sioux Indians.

Chas. Harrion presented a bill on the Bloomingville Bank of Sandusky Bay.

J. F. Smith gave the Society quite an interesting collection of fossil stones and petrifactions; also an Indian arrow some four inches long, with a succinct account of the makers of the Indian arrow. It has generally been supposed that the Indians made them, but no one ever saw them at it. Indeed, they always denied doing it themselves, and said they found them already made, just as we do, sometimes in large quantities, and used them to tip arrows with. It is supposed they were made by what are known in the history of our country as the Mound Builders.

Uriah Eckhart presented a flat stone perforated in the direction of its long diameter; an Indian curiosity found two miles north of Milan.

An old American Instructor was presented by Mrs. A. Anderson.

On motion, the thanks of the Society were tendered the people of Bellevue for their kindness and hospitality. Also, a vote of thanks was given the choir.

The place of the next meeting was left to the decision of the President. Adjourned *sine die*.

Z. PHILLIPS, Pres't.

H. F. BAKER, Sec'y *pro tem.*

ANNUAL MEETING.

MORNING SESSION.

Meeting was called to order at 11 o'clock by Z. Phillips, President, and was opened with prayer by Rev. Mr. Morrell. The minutes of the last meeting were read by the Secretary, and accepted. The Treasurer's report was also read and accepted.

Judge Benjamin Summers, Biographer, read his report which was as follows:

Philip Moffat, died Sept. 5, 1872, at his residence in Charfield township, Crawford County, Ohio, aged 84 years. He was born in Connecticut, and in 1819 moved to Fairfield, Huron County, from whence he moved in 1838 to Crawford County.

Charles Keith, died in Iola, Allen Co., Kansas, on the 21st of December, 1872, very suddenly, of heart disease, aged 75 years. He moved to Bronson, Huron

County, from Vermont, in the spring of 1816, where he remained many years;—from there he removed to Peru, and thence to Illinois; three years ago he took up his residence in Kansas.

Robert W. Betts, died at his residence in Vermillion, Erie County, in 1872, aged about 84. He came originally from Norwalk, Conn., and settled in Vermillion township, living there up to the time of his death. Susan F. Betts, his wife, followed him a few months later.

Isaac Miller, the "Nimrod of Vermillion," died at that place, in December, 1872, aged about 64. He must have settled there before the war of 1812, with his father's family. They settled on the La Chapelle Creek, a mile or more from the lake. He was a great hunter in his day, and it was no great feat for him to bag three to five deer a day.

Dea. Ira Parsons, died at Oberlin, in May, 1873, aged 67. He came from Connecticut, before the war of 1812, and settled in Vermillion.

Mrs. Lydia Kellogg, wife of Charles Kellogg, died in Milan, in 1872, aged about 74 years. She settled on the Firelands about the year 1820.

Deacon Jacob Sherarts came with his father's family from Pennsylvania, before the war of 1812, and settled in Vermillion, where he died in December, 1872, aged 67.

Anson Wilson, Esq., died in Oberlin, Feb. 9, 1873, aged 72 years. He was born in New York, Dec. 22, 1800, and removed to Berlin, Erie County, in 1831, where he continued to reside until 1871, when he removed to Oberlin. His wife, Betsey P. Wilson, survived him but a few weeks, departing this life April 14th following.

Mrs. Wm. Parish, aged 80 years, died in Bloomingville, Erie County, on the morning of June 10th, 1873. She came onto the Firelands at an early date.

The Biographer concludes his report as follows:

I have still to complain of the neglect of the friends to forward the necessary data for biographical sketches. Most of those named in this report are deficient in consequence, but I have thought it better to give very meagre sketches, embracing only the names and approximate ages and dates of death, rather than none, and will be glad to have dates, &c., furnished yet in time for publication.

Here are sketches of the lives of a half-dozen aged men who have finished their work during a few months past. They have left a record which their posterity have a right to feel proud of. In youth, they were beset on all sides by the customs of the times—the free use of spirituous liquors. The temperance reformation of 1830 and onward, together with the great religious revivals of those times, aided by their own good sense and judgment, saved them to be an honor to their race, and in a good old age, with blessings on their heads, to gather up their feet and depart in peace. Why do we not more frequently have occasion to record the deaths of old Pioneers who have gone on the other tack and died inebriates? Alas! very few such lived to be old Pioneers. Will it not be wise to take note and give heed to so significant a fact? B. SUMMERS, Biographer.

Judge Phillips said that he had been personally acquainted with most of the persons named in the biographer's report, and related interesting reminiscences of some of them. His remarks were listened to with close attention and greatly interested the audience.

It was moved and seconded that a committee of five be appointed to nominate candidates for the offices of the Society for the ensuing year.

Remarks were made by Hon. William Parish, and Mr. Wells, 86 years of age, eloquently addressed the Society; related the origin of the Society, and the objects of its organization; was sorry to see the smallness of the attendance. He spoke at some length of the progress and prospect, and the successes and failures of American society.

The President appointed as committee

to make nominations, P. N. Schuyler, O. Jenney, Capt. Woodruff, Seth Jennings, and Daniel Baker.

The Society then took a recess till 1½ o'clock P. M.

AFTERNOON SESSION.

The Society was called to order at 1½ o'clock. Mr. P. N. Schuyler, Chairman of the committee to nominate officers, reported as follows:

President—Judge Z. Phillips.

Vice Presidents—John H. Niles, Norwich; Harvey Fowler, Margaretta; Lewis Wells, Vermillion; Martin Kellogg, Bronson; E. O. Merry, Lyme; Livy Rash, Groton; D. G. Barker, Ripley;—John Kelley, Danbury; A. R. Marsh, Ridgefield; Stark Adams, Huron; Seth Jennings, Milan; James Arnold, Townsend; Hosea Townsend, New London; Major Smith, Clarksfield; C. C. Canfield, Wakeman; Jas. C. Judson, Florence;—Daniel W. Tenant, Berlin; E. J. Waldron, Hartland; David Palmer, Fitchville,; H. W. Owen, Fairfield; E. E. Husted, Norwalk; A. H. Agard, Portland; D. G. Taylor, Perkins; William Parish, Oxford; Henry Adams, Peru;—John Wright, Greenfield; Erastus Dickinson, New Haven; Uriah Robinson, Richmond; Alanson Raymond, Sherman; Addison S. Kelley, Kelley's Island;—Wakeman Berch, Ruggles; Humphrey Gifford, Greenwich.

Recording Secretary—S. E. Carrington.

Treasurer—Isaac Underhill.

Board of Directors—Judge Z. Phillips, F. D. Parish, John H. Niles, Judge B. Summers, and G. T. Stewart.

Corresponding Secretaries — P. N. Schuyler and F. D. Parish.

Biographer—Benjamin Summers.

On motion, the report was accepted and the committee discharged.

Judge Phillips made a statement as to the material on hand for the eleventh volume of the *Pioneer*, and the necessity of obtaining further subscriptions thereto. [At this point the Secretary was obliged to leave, and P. N. Schuyler was appointed Secretary *pro tem.*]

Reports were made by sundry persons as to numbers of the *Pioneer* which they were prepared to pledge themselves for in behalf of their respective townships, as follows: Seth Jennings, Milan, 23 copies; E. O. Merry, Lyme, 30 copies; Martin Kellogg, Bronson, 40 copies; Z. Phillips, Berlin, 50 copies; J. C. Judson, Florence, 30 copies; D. G. Barker, Ripley, 20 copies; James Arnold, Townsend, 30 copies; A. D. Skellenger, New London, 25 copies.

Hon. F. D. Parish made extended remarks of his early remembrance of the Firelands. Said he had lived thereon 51 years; attended the first Court held in Norwalk fifty-one years ago the 9th inst. Uncle Enos was Sheriff. The original "woods" were then only a few rods from where the speaker then stood—in Whittlesey Hall. John S. Reed, from the mouth of Black River, was one of the Commissioners of Huron County. The whole of the Reserve and Sandusky and Wood Counties were all in our judicial district. He spoke of Judges Higgins and Bowen; also referred to a law-suit, the principal actors in which were Esqs. Pickett Latimer and Philip R. Hopkins. He also related an anecdote of Hon. E. Lane, while in the Supreme Court; an anecdote of Corwin on a slander suit;—also one of Judge E. T. Tappan, and of old "gambling" times. He said there were *some* exceptions, for a *few* did not gamble. He told a story of Harry O. Sheldon, how a trick of "cards" was played on him.

An opportunity was given for the presentation of relics, curiosities, &c., as follows: A Deed given by Wm. H. Winthrop and Mary Ann Winthrop to the children of John B. Hammond and wife, of 30 and 43-100ths acres of land in lot 15, section 1, in Huron township, deed dated July 31st, 1828.

E. H. Gibbs, of Milan, presented an ancient copy of Gordon's Travels in Abyssinia; also an ancient copy of the Declaration of Independence with fac

simile of signatures of signers; also a copy of vol. 13 of the Christian Observer, dated 1814.

Leonard Fisk, of Berlin, Erie County, presented a copy of the public laws of Rhode Island, published in 1798, also containing the charter of King James to the colonists of Rhode Island, dated the 8th day of July, and the 15th year of the reign of that King; also contains Declaration of Independence; the Articles of Confederation between the Colonies; the Constitution of the United States and Amendments thereto, including Article 12, and President Washington's Address of September, 1796.

Judge Summers exhibited a pair of old Saddle-Bags of Chas. Betts, of the "very olden time."

A discussion followed as to the publication of the next volume of the *Pioneer*.

On motion of P. N. Schuyler, a committee consisting of the President and Chairman, of Capt. Woodruff and Frank Reed was appointed, with instructions to do what is necessary, that the relics, curiosities, books, &c., of the Society, may be kept in order and safety.

Judge Summers gave notice of a resolution for amending the Constitution of the Society so that the annual meeting for the election of officers may be held wherever the President and his advisors may order, and not be restricted to Norwalk.

The Society then adjourned, to meet on the second Wednesday in September next.

Z. PHILLIPS, Pres't.
P. N. SCHUYLER, Sec'y *pro tem.*

QUARTERLY MEETING.

MORNING SESSION.

The Firelands Historical Society convened at Davis' Hall, Monroeville, Sept. 24, 1873, at half-past 11 o'clock A. M., and the President being absent, the meeting was called to order by J. S. Davis, Esq., of Monroeville, upon whose motion J. H. Niles, Vice President, from Norwich, was chosen President pro tem.—The meeting was opened with prayer by Rev. Myron Breckenridge, of Norwalk, after which the minutes of the last annual meeting were read and approved.

The list of Vice Presidents was then called, and the following were present:—J. H. Niles, Norwich; E. O. Merry, Lyme; Martin Kellogg, Bronson; H. Fowler, Margaretta; Livy Rash, Groton; C. C. Canfield, Wakeman; and Henry Adams, Peru. The following officers also answered to their names: S. E. Carrington, Recording Secretary, and Benj. Summers, Biographer.

The Vice Presidents were then called upon for reports of additional subscriptions to those heretofore reported to the Society for the 11th volume of the *Pioneer*. Henry Adams, of Peru township, pledged for 10 copies; Livy Rash, of Groton, for 15 copies; and a letter was received from Seth Jennings, of Milan, pledging for 3 copies. Mr. Fowler said there had been nothing done in Margaretta toward getting names for the work.

Mr. Summers, Biographer, stated that he had no report to make, as none of the old pioneers had died since the last meeting, and no sketches had been furnished.

On motion, the Society then took a recess until 1½ o'clock P. M.

AFTERNOON SESSION.

At half-past one o'clock the Society was called to order, and upon request of Mr. Niles, Vice President E. O. Merry took the chair during the remainder of the session. The Constitution was read, and the following named persons joined the Society: J. S. Davis, Mrs. C. P. Davis, Laura Sherman, Jonathan Prentiss, Harriet Fitch, W. F. Givinn, Samuel Corwin, F. Messenger, S. D. Fish, Mrs. Harriet Fish, Mrs. Clark Center, Edward D. Irvine, George Turner, P. G. Robertson, and Myron Bucher.

The following relics were exhibited:—By Mr. Niles, of Norwich, a specimen of

coral rock, in reference to which he made some interesting remarks, giving the theory of geologists as to the age and mode of formation of this class of rocks.

Mr. W. L. Latham, of Monroeville, exhibited a fragment of a stone kettle, supposed to have been cut out by Indians, and which was found about four feet below the surface of the ground some forty-eight or fifty years ago, while excavating for an out-door cellar. The vessel was cut out of soap-stone and the cuttings, by an instrument about one-fourth of an inch wide, used in its manufacture, were still very distinct and presented the appearance of its having been cut into shape by a stone mason. It was about ¾ of an inch thick and a very good piece of work. Mr. Latham said that nearly or quite the entire vessel lay where this was found, but in pieces, and seemed to lie as if it had been broken by falling and not afterwards disturbed until covered with earth and found at the depth stated.

Mr. Summers stated that while plowing many years ago in gravelly soil, he hit the top of some hard-head rocks about a foot below the top of the ground, and upon digging down, found that it was a spot formerly used as a fire-place by Indians or some parties a long time ago.—There were coals, ashes and some pieces of hickory bark partly burned.

Dr. Chalmer Prentiss exhibited a forty dollar bill of continental currency, which read on its face as follows: "This bill entitles the bearer to receive forty Spanish milled dollars or the value thereof in gold or silver, according to a resolution passed by Congress dated Philadelphia, Sept. 26, 1778." (Signed) R. Mullen and W. Gardner. On each end is printed "Continental Currency." Dr. Prentiss also exhibited an eighteen pence piece of Colonial issue; upon its face was printed "This bill of one shilling and sixpence proclamation is emitted by law of the Colony of New Jersey, passed in the fourteenth year of the reign of his Majesty, King George III, dated at Burlington, in New Jersey, March 25th, 1776." In the center of the back is the cut of a tobacco-leaf, and across one end are these words in very plain type, "To counterfeit is death."

Mr. J. S. Davis proposed that as there was no regular speaker provided for the day, that an old fashioned class-meeting be held, recounting incidents, &c., of olden times.

Mr. Summers was the first speaker under this proposition, and said that the members had been somewhat discouraged about the success of the Society, but to-day they could take fresh courage; he said it was desirable to keep it up so long as any of the old pioneers remained, that a full memoir might be made of them, and he requested that all information be furnished him to assist in making these memoirs.

Rev. M. Breckenridge made some interesting remarks about his coming to this country from Vermont, in 1836, and settling three miles from Monroeville;—that all he raised the first year could have been bought for $30; that he at once interested himself in public schools; had one at his house; then one was held in a cooper-shop, then in two different log houses in turn, and finally, he and his neighbors built a school-house in the woods and called it "Bush Seminary," and it has been called so to this day;—that in this way he gave his children a liberal education and his four sons and four daughters had all been teachers in the public schools; said he hoped the rising generation would not be as poor and pinched as were these old pioneers, but that they would be as industrious; tnat whisky and tobacco were found to be plenty with the rising generation, and he would to God they were all passed away. May God bless the pioneers and bring them into an inheritance which is incorruptible, at His right hand.

M. Kellogg urged the finishing and publication of the eleventh volume of the *Pioneer*. He related the incident of his coming into this country in 1815, being on the journey from the 17th of June till the 20th of July; that two years ago he

made the same journey in 23 hours; at that time salt was worth here $10 per barrel, wheat eighteen shillings per bushel, and flour, such as it was, but not such as would be used now-a-days, $12 per barrel; tea was 20 shillings per pound, and his family used one-fourth of a pound the first year they were here.

H. Fowler said an important incident connected with the history of the Firelands was the Indian massacre of Margaretta township, in which one woman and four children were murdered and fifteen taken captive and carried off. It was on the 13th of June, 1813; there were three families in the neighborhood at the time —several young men, some young women and old women, wives and daughters.— On the 13th, all the men belonging to these three families were absent about a mile and a half, at an "improvement," planting corn. One man plowing over the hill, a hundred rods away, perhaps, and another removing hides from a pool near by, to be dressed, were the only men in the neighborhood at the time; there were three women together at one place; the first they knew the house was full of Indians; they grabbed the women by the hair of their heads and said: "Will you go? Will you go?" and they were immediately taken out of the door. The man who was near by, before he was aware of the presence of the Indians, was seized by the hands. They were all then taken across the creek; the smaller children that were too much trouble to take along, were killed before the eyes of their mothers and the rest; they dashed one of the children's brains out against a black oak tree. A Mrs. Snooks was not able to travel, and they killed her—one of the Indians cutting her down with his tomahawk. A boy, fourteen or fifteen years old, who tried to run away, was shot.— They went on with their captives some six or eight miles to the mouth of the creek that empties into the bay. (The creek was that known as Big Pickerel.) There they had canoes and went directly across the bay to where the Portage River comes down, and re-shipping the prisoners, went up that stream a little way and there lodged. Here they carried their canoes, which were of birch bark and very light, right across the point. After proceeding up the Portage River some distance, they encamped and took a rest;— here they stretched and dried the scalps of all those they had killed. One woman saw the scalp of her murdered infant stretched and dried immediately before her. From this point they shipped to Fort Malden, and from there to Detroit, where the captives were purchased from the Indians by the white inhabitants.— They remained in Detroit until after Perry's victory on Lake Erie, without any means of hearing from home, but those at home learned soon after they were purchased from the Indians of their whereabouts, and frequently obtained tidings from them. After the battle of Lake Erie, Mr. Snow and Mr. Butler went to Detroit and brought them home. Mrs. Butler, whose infant was murdered in her presence, was so broken down by the scene and its memories, that she lived but a short time after arriving home.— The men of these families, who were absent at the time the murders were committed, did not learn of the occurrence until near sundown, but steps for pursuit were immediately taken, and by early sunrise the next day forty men were collected, who followed the trail until they came to where it crossed the bay, and then, having no boat, were compelled to abandon pursuit, and returned home to bring those who had been murdered and left behind.

The President *pro tem.*, requested all present who had resided on the Firelands fifty years to rise. Seventeen responded. Only two were present who were born and had lived all their lives upon the Firelands.

Dr. C. Prentiss was called upon and related the story of "the dog trade" which took place about forty years ago, between two of the early settlers, John and Dan Sowers, who lived a few miles from Monroeville. John had a dog;— Dan had not, but wanted one. A fellow

named Hinley, knowing Dan's wants, and being anxious to "make an honest shilling," stole John's dog and sold it to Dan, the latter residing some distance from his brother, and not having seen his much boasted canine. A visit shortly after from John discovered to him his lost property, and disclosed the ruse perpetrated by Hinley.

The following resolution was presented and unanimously adopted:

Resolved, That the Society gratefully acknowledge and return thanks to the people of Monroeville for their kindness and hospitality on this occasion.

The Doxology, "Praise God from whom all blessings flow," was then sung to the tune of Old Hundred, after which the Society adjourned to meet at the call of the President.

E. O. MERRY, Pres. pro tem.
S. E. CARRINGTON, Sec'y.

ANNUAL MEETING.

MORNING SESSION.

The annual meeting of the Firelands Historical Society was held at Whittlesey Hall, in Norwalk, Wednesday, June 24, 1874. The attendance of pioneers was good, but not a large number of others were present. The meeting was called to order at 11 A. M., by President Phillips, and opened with prayer by F. D. Parish, after which the minutes of the last meeting were read and approved.

The list of officers was then called and the following were present: Z. Phillips, of Berlin, President; Martin Kellogg, Bronson; E. O. Merry, Lyme; Livy Rash, Groton; D. G. Barker, Ripley;—James Arnold, Townsend; Jas. C. Judson, Florence; William Parish, Oxford, Vice Presidents; S. E. Carrington, Recording Secretary; Z. Phillips, F. D. Parish, Benj. Summers, G. T. Stewart, Directors; P. N. Schuyler, F. D. Parish, Corresponding Secretaries; B. Summers, Biographer.

The President in opening the meeting, stated that there was apparently not as much interest in the meetings of the Society as there had been in years past, and that the former interest should be maintained in order that the history of the Firelands may be completed and put into form to be handed down to our posterity.

Mr. Summers made a few remarks upon the subject of the condition of the Society as indicated by the attendance, and stated that the meetings were formerly well sustained when held at Norwalk, but that more recently larger attendance and more interest were manifested in the meetings when held at other places. He called up his proposed amendment to the Constitution, offered at the last annual meeting, providing that "the annual meeting for the election of officers may be held wherever the President and his advisers may order, and not be restricted to Norwalk." The speaker moved that the amendment be adopted.

Mr. Schuyler stated that similar amendments had before been offered, and on each occasion he had opposed the proposition on the ground that the Society when organized was intended to be a permanent institution, not only for the collection and preservation of the early history and relics of the Firelands, but, as soon as the materials are collected, that a museum should be instituted and maintained at the most central and accessible point to all the Firelands, which would be Norwalk. It was for this reason that the provision was made in the Constitution for holding the *annual* meetings of the Society at Norwalk, as here would be kept the historical records and relics, and be a place at which all pioneers and those interested in the Society would wish to congregate at least once a year. The feature, however, of extending the operations of the Society beyond that of merely collecting and preserving an authentic history of the early times and doings upon the Firelands had in a measure failed, and if greater interest would attend the meetings if held elsewhere than in Norwalk, he would favor an amendment to

the effect that the annual meetings should be held in Norwalk "*unless otherwise ordered* by the President and Board of Directors."

Judge Parish also spoke upon the amendment, after which the subject was laid over until after recess.

On motion, W. C. Allen was appointed a committee to see the agent of the Tennessee Jubilee Singers, then in town, and invite them to sing before the Society in the afternoon.

On motion of Mr. Schuyler, it was ordered that a committee of five be selected to present names after recess, for officers for the coming year. B. Summers, P. N. Schuyler, E. O. Merry, F. D. Parish and James Arnold were chosen such Committee.

Mr. Allen reported that he had secured the services of the Tennessee singers to sing a few pieces before the Society in the afternoon.

On motion, the Society then took a recess until half-past one P. M.

AFTERNOON SESSION.

The Society was called to order by the President at half-past one o'clock. The Constitution was read and two gentlemen joined the Society.

Judge Summers presented his report, which was as follows:

BIOGRAPHER'S REPORT.

Again the revolving months have brought us to our annual meeting—us who have been spared from the all-leveling effects of Time's unerring scythe, for that has been uncommonly busy meantime, and scores of the old pioneers who have from year to year gladdened our hearts with hearty shakes of the hand and brotherly congratulations, will meet us no more on this side of Jordan. They have passed over a little in advance, and we trust are waiting to again strike hands with us on the brighter and happier shore. Is it fanaticism—is it illusion—to expect that even there the sufferings and hardships, the successes and enjoyments of our pioneer experience on these now beautiful Firelands, will give additional zest to our happy meeting over the River?—Shall we not grasp with a peculiar joy the heroic hands that did such noble service in converting the howling wilderness of 1815 into the fruitful happy land of 1874? The thin, scattering white hairs, the piping, broken voices, the withered limbs and tottering steps of those remaining and present to-day, give unmistakable indications that the race of the Firelands Pioneers is nearly run. This field is white for the harvest, and the reapers are at work. We are crowding down to the ford; Charon's boat goes never without passengers. Neither is there cause to lament. Our work is accomplished.—Though we may not be able to say in all respects as did Paul, "I have fought the good fight," we may justly say we have fought a wilderness and conquered it; we have endured hunger and thirst, sickness and privations, adversity and prosperity. Hitherto have we come, and here we are, soon to deliver over to worthy successors, we hope, one of the richest and most beautiful of God's heritages;—which may they long enjoy in peace, and re-deliver with additions and amendments to equally worthy successors.

Owing to an indisposition or negligence of the great majority to forward biographical sketches, I can report only a small proportion of the worthy departed of the year. The following is the list I have been enabled to make, much of which was furnished by our aged and worthy Vice President, Martin Kellogg, of Bronson, to whom the Society is much indebted for this and former favors.

Andrew Wood, died at Berlin, Erie County, Saturday, June 20, 1874, after a lingering and painful illness, aged 68 years, 7 months and 6 days. The deceased was born at Auburn, Connecticut, Nov. 14, 1805, and came to Berlin with his parents, Roswell and Margaret Wood and family, April 15, 1815. They settled on the farm since occupied by the deceased, then a wilderness, and made it the abode of peace and plenty—one of

the many beautiful residences of Berlin. Margaret, his mother, died March 24, 1818. Roswell, the father, died in September, 1851. There were seven children of Roswell, all born in Connecticut, and all deceased; the subject of this notice being the last. He leaves a wife, *nee* Margaret Sheeley, and three daughters, Nancy, Jane and Ella. He was a very modest, quiet, unpretending and worthy man, filling in all respects the place of a good husband, father, neighbor and citizen, and died honored and regretted.

Simon H. Sprague, died at Florence, in December, 1873, aged about 70 years. He was the first, or nearly the first, white child brought into Florence, and has been till now a familiar and cheerful figure at our meetings. His memoir, published in the Sandusky Register, has been mislaid, which is deeply regretted.

Virgil Squires came to Florence township with his parents about 60 years ago, and died about the first of June, 1874, at Defiance, Ohio, aged about 65 years.—He was a son of Capt. Joab Squires, one of the early settlers of that township, and married Rebecca, daughter of Chas. Peck, another early pioneer of the same township, who survives him. He was engaged mostly in mercantile affairs, and for several years last past was President of the First National Bank of Defiance.—He early united with the M. E. Church, and sustained his relationship in various official positions to the satisfaction of his brethren, and had the respect of his numerous acquaintances as a devoted Christian, a correct business man, amiable in all the relations of life.

Delight Upson was born in Southington, Conn., March 11, 1769, married Moses Todd, May, 1794, removed to Vermillion, Ohio, 1836, and was the mother of Woodward Todd, formerly Recorder of Huron County, and now a resident of Norwalk. She died at Vermillion, December 2, 1858, aged 89 years.

Jabez Deming, died in Norwalk, Nov. 18, 1873, aged 84 years, 3 months and 8 days. Mr. Deming settled in Bronson in 1818. (See *Pioneer*, Vol I, No. 3, page 40.) Moved to Norwalk a few months previous to his death.

Mrs. Julia Johnson, died in Peru, Jan. 14, 1874, aged 81 years, 1 month and 2 days. Her maiden name was Julia Harris. She was born December 12, 1792, and was married to Marcus Johnson Jan. 1, 1810, in the town of Ella, Genessee County, N. Y.

Marcus Johnson was born Nov. 15, 1785, in New Haven, Conn; he died in Peru, May 19, 1834, aged 49 years, 6 months and 3 days. They moved from Genessee County in April, 1822, to Peru, Ohio, where they settled. Both died on the same farm.

Jonas Leonard, died in Bronson, March 13, 1874, aged 78 years, 9 months and 16 days. He was born in Charmont, Franklin County, Mass., in 1790. See *Pioneer*, Vol. III, page 10.

Perry Beckwith, died in Bronson, March 15, 1874, aged 77 years, 3 months and 10 days. Settled in Bronson about 1824–5.

Mrs. Betsey Rundle, died in Bronson, March 17, 1874, aged 82 years, 6 months and 5 days. Settled in Bronson in 1817. See *Pioneer*, Vol. III, page 9.

Bethuel Cole, died in Bronson, on the 21st of May, 1874, aged 77 years, 7 mos. and 21 days. Mr. Cole was born in Onondaga County, N. Y., where he lived until October, 1823, having meanwhile, Dec. 14, 1817, been married. In 1823, he came to Ohio, settling in Bronson on the same farm on which he has since lived until his death, a period of over fifty-one years.

Lester Clark, died in Norwalk, January 31, 1874, aged 78 years.

Mrs. Laura Underhill, died in Norwalk township, Feb. 18, 1874, aged 75 years. The deceased was one of the pioneers, having come to this County about fifty-seven years ago. She was a cousin of Isaac Underhill, of Norwalk, as was also her husband, David Underhill, who died some ten years ago. Lived in Bronson at an early day, then moved to Thompson, Seneca County.

Mrs. Violette Manahan, died at the ad-

vanced age of 94 years, 11 months and 12 days, at the residence of her son George, in Norwalk, on the 18th of December, 1873. She was born in Morris County, New Jersey, 1779, removed to Cayuga County, about the year 1800, and from there to Huron County in the spring of 1833. She was the mother of five children, one daughter, Mrs. Worthing, who resides in Auburn, N. Y., and four sons, George, Charles, Henry and Lewis, who for many years have been among the active business men of Huron County.

B. SUMMERS, Biographer.

Judge Summers, chairman of the committee to nominate officers for the ensuing year, submitted the following report:

President—Judge Z. Phillips.

Vice Presidents—John H. Niles, Norwich; Harvey Fowler, Margaretta; Philo Wells, Vermillion; Martin Kellogg, Bronson; E. O. Merry, Lyme; Livy Rash, Groton; D. G. Barker, Ripley;—John Kelley, Danbury; A. R. Marsh, Ridgefield; Stark Adams, Huron; Seth Jennings, Milan; James Arnold, Townsend; Hosea Townsend, New London; Major Smith, Clarksfield; C. C. Canfield, Wakeman; Jas. C. Judson, Florence;—Cromwell Tillinghast, Berlin; E. J. Waldron, Hartland; David Palmer, Fitchville; Lorenzo D. Allen, Fairfield; O. Jenney, Norwalk; A. H. Agard, Portland; D. G. Taylor, Perkins; William Parish, Oxford; Henry Adams, Peru;—C. B. Simmons, Greenfield; E. Dickinson, New Haven; Daniel Sweetland, Richmond; Alanson Raymond, Sherman; Addison S. Kelley, Kelley's Island;—Wakeman Berch, Ruggles; Humphrey Gifford, Greenwich.

Recording Secretary—S. E. Carrington.

Treasurer—D. A. Baker.

Board of Directors—G. T. Stewart, John H. Niles, P. N. Schuyler, B. Summers, and F. D. Parish.

Corresponding Secretaries — P. N. Schuyler and F. D. Parish.

Biographer—Benjamin Summers.

The report was, on motion, adopted.

The subject of amending the Constitution so that the annual meetings may be held elsewhere than at Norwalk, was then called up, and Mr. Schuyler offered the following as a substitute for the pending amendment:

ARTICLE 5. The annual meeting of the Society shall be held at Norwalk, on the second Wednesday of June in each year, unless for any one year it be otherwise ordered by the concurrent action of the President and Directors.

On motion, the substitute was accepted and adopted.

The President then introduced Hon. G. T. Stewart, who delivered a very able and interesting address upon the objects of the Society, urging increased activity in its interests, and pointing out the broader grounds to which the work of the Society should be extended, as originally contemplated.

The subject of publishing the eleventh volume of the *Pioneer* was then introduced by Mr. Schuyler, who offered the following:

Resolved, That the Directors be instructed to secure the publication of the next (11th) number of the *Pioneer* as soon as practicable; and they are also authorized, if by them it shall be deemed best, to appoint a Historian for the Society, who shall arrange, revise, and condense its publication and historical material in proper form for publication in one or two volumes, as such revising editor and the Directors may decide.

Dr. Skellenger advocated the resolution and urged more zeal and earnest work in the matter, and also substantial aid by way of money subscriptions.

L. D. Strutton, Judge Summers and Judge Stickney, also urged the early publication of the eleventh volume.

The resolution was, on motion, adopted.

The following additional subscriptions for the eleventh volume of the *Pioneer* were pledged: C. B. Stickney, 10 copies; Isaac Underhill, for Ridgefield, 25 copies; L. D. Strutton, 5 copies; G. T. Stewart,

50 copies; W. C. Allen, 10 copies; W. C. Allen, for Fairfield, 20 copies, and for Wakeman, 15 copies; K. Todd, for Florence, 10 copies, in addition to those heretofore subscribed; A. Keeler, 2 copies; E. A. Pray, 1 copy.

E. G. Gibbs, of Milan, presented Vol. 14 of the Christian Observer, published in 1816.

On motion, a resolution of thanks to Mr. Gibbs for the donation was adopted.

A copy of "A Church History of New England," published at Boston in 1784, was also exhibited.

The Tennessee singers, in accordance with appointment made in the forenoon, appeared and sang three pieces in the most charming manner, and to the great pleasure of the pioneers.

The following resolutions were unanimously adopted:

Resolved, That the Secretary furnish to the press of this place a copy of the proceedings of this meeting for publication, and that the various publishers of the daily and weekly papers of the Firelands be requested to copy and publish the same.

Resolved, That the Tennesseeans have the thanks of this Society for their delightful music on this occasion.

Resolved, That the thanks of this meeting are hereby given to the people of Norwalk for the hospitality extended to us on this occasion.

On motion, the Society then adjourned.

Z. PHILLIPS, Pres't.

S. E. CARRINGTON, Sec'y.

MISCELLANEOUS ARTICLES.

INDIANS AND WHISKY—EXCITING RENCOUNTER.

The following interesting facts, narrated by a correspondent of the Cleveland Herald, illustrate the source of many of our Indian wars, and how greatly the dangers of Pioneer life were increased by that cause on the Western Reserve:

At the time of the affair which I am now going to narrate, there were only four families in Stow, but Indians were numerous. There were two large villages of them at the Big Falls of the Cuyahoga, one on the West side occupied by the Delawares, and one on the East side occupied by the Six Nations, probably of the Seneca tribe, the Cuyahoga being the national boundary between them. Wagmong with his band lived on the South side of Stow Lake. Peace and quietude prevailed between the whites and Indians, and among the Indians themselves, and they maintained friendly intercourse with one another, but private squabbles and fights would now and then happen, as my story will go to show.

Judge William Wetmore lived in a log house on the East shore of the Lake, and but a few rods from it. Captain Thomas Rice lived a little South-West of the lake, and Wagmong lived between, on a sandy ridge thrown up by the action of the wind and waves on the South side of the lake. It was a lovely spot. The Cuyahoga was only a short distance to the South and the lake on the North. Both abounded with fish. It was a favorite resort for wild fowl, and in summer, the deer, then numerous, would in the night wade into the water to escape from the torment of insects, and it was a fine place to hunt deer by a process called by the whites "candling," and of spearing fish by torchlight. All these advantages and the natural beauty of the scenery made it a favorite resort for both whites and Indians. It happened one day that Bill Lappin, whom I mentioned in a former communication as acting the part of a mill boy for the Judge, was visiting at

the Judge's. Captain Rice, and I believe others, were also there. The Indians had got some "snickee" (whisky) and were going to have a grand drunk, and as is their custom, gave up their guns, knives, and tomahawks to the squaws previous to beginning their pow-wow, lest in the madness induced by the "fire-water" they should hurt one another or do things they would be sorry for in their sober moments. These arms the squaws secreted. This was their usual custom. Lappin liked "snickee" as well as the Indians, and joined them in their drunken frolic, and was a hale fellow well met. After the fire-water began to work, from some cause, what, I cannot now say, a quarrel arose between Lappin and Wagmong. From words they proceeded to blows; they clinched and fell to the ground; they rolled and tumbled and pummeled one another as best they could. Of Lappin it might justly be said, "a stalwart man was he, of large and brawny hands," and so was Wagmong. By some mischance, Lappin badly hurt his hand, and his blows fell more feebly, and Wagmong was gaining to all appearance the victory, when Lappin espied a large nose jewel suspended from the *septum nasi* (cartilaginous partition between the nostrils) of Wagmong's nose. Siezing it, he wrenched it from its firm fastening, and threw it away. They parted, how I dó n't know, whether Wagmong cried, hold, enough, or friends intervened.—Lappin went up to the Judge's and sat down on the back side of the room, leaning against the wall directly in front of the door. The Judge sat near the door, and others were scattered around. Here I will leave them for a short time and go back to Wagmong.

He was badly hurt, not only in his nasal jib, but in his feelings. To have his beautiful jewel, his much loved jewel, torn from his nose, and like a worthless thing thrown away, was an indignity too great to be put up with. He brooded on revenge. He searched for his gun, and having found it, he hurried up to the Judge's to find Lappin. Standing square in the doorway he took aim at Lappin.—Judge Wetmore threw up his hand just in time to derange his aim, and the ball entered a log just above Lappin's head. All the whites sprang to their feet.—Wagmong turned and ran towards the lake, with Lappin in hot pursuit after him, followed by the rest of the company. The Indian jumped into the lake and swam out into deep water. Lappin paced the shore, and as he saw his enemy so near and yet beyond his reach, he foamed like a caged tiger. If the British army "swore terribly in Flanders," so did Lappin on this occasion. The Judge and other whites restrained Lappin, and acted the part of peace-makers. The cold water of the lake had a sobering effect on Wagmong, and he agreed to bury the hatchet if Lappin would. Influenced by the rest he agreed to do so. Wagmong came ashore and shook hands, all took a drink to ratify the treaty, and then went to their respective homes.

A few days after the fight, Lappin was walking along the Indian trail that ran along the east side of the lake, with his hand suspended in a sling, for it had not yet recovered from its hurt, when he saw Wagmong, all alone, approaching from the opposite direction. He jerked his hand from the sling and walked boldly forward as if nothing ailed him, for he did not know but the Indian still harbored thoughts of revenge, and that was a favorable opportunity to obtain it, but Wagmong held out his hand for a shake, saying as he did so, "How'd do, how'd do. You stout man. You whip Indian." That was the last of it.

Had Lappin been killed or badly wounded by Wagmong, nobody knows what the result would have been. When Diver was shot by John Mohawk, in Deerfield, the whole country was aroused, and Nickshaw was shot in Richfield, only five miles from my residence, in retaliation. It seems Providential that Judge Wetmore was so near the Indian when he fired, and prevented some unknown but dreadful catastrophe to the infant settlement in Stow.

OLDEN TIMES—A HUMOROUS SKETCH.

In those days people drank green tea and ate heavy suppers, and went to bed with warming-pans and night-caps, and slept upon feather beds with curtains around them, and dreaded fresh air in their rooms as much as sensible folks now-a-days dread to be without it. And if they heard a noise in the night, they got up and groped about in the dark, and procured a light with much difficulty with flint and steel and tinder box and unpleasant sulphur matches, and went to the medicine chest and took calomel, and blue pills, and salts, and senna, and jalap, and rhubarb.

In those days the fine gentlemen tippled old Jamaica and bitters in the morning, and lawyers took their clients to the sideboard for a dram, while the fine ladies lounged on sofas, reading Byron, Moore and Scott.

In those days long leather fire-buckets were hung in the entries, filled with water, and when a fire broke out every citizen was a fireman.

In those days gentlemen chewed tobacco, indifferent where they expectorated, and ladies cleaned their dental pearls with snuff, wore thin shoes, and laced themselves into feminine wasps and consumption. Babies were put to bed with spanking and paregoric; and urchins were flogged at school and subjected to all sorts of unheard-of chastisement. Picture books and toys were dear and poor. Big boys played "hookey" in the streets with crooked sticks and hard wooden balls, policemen being unknown, and went home to their mothers to have broken shins annointed with opodeldoc.

Street fights occurred between schools, and schoolmasters were persecuted by the biggest boys. Young ladies danced nothing but formal and decorous cotillions, or fast and furious Virginia reels, in wide entry-halls, by the light of the candles that called for snuffers every ten minutes, to music by black fiddlers, or cracked and jingling pianos; while mothers sat darning stockings, and fathers played backgammon, or gambled, swigged brandy and water, came home late roaring bacchanalian songs, and inquiring of their sleepy wives in which brown parcel the milk was wrapped up.

Boarding-school misses in calico gowns, practiced the "Battle of Prague," "Caliph of Bagdad," or "Clementin's Sonatas," on instruments not much bigger than a modern young lady's traveling trunk, strung with wires that were always snapping; and occasionally chirped Tom Moore's "Melodies," or such airs as "Gaily the Troubadour," "Pray, Papa, Stay a Little Longer," or "The Banks of the Blue-oo-oo Mosche-he-he-helle."

Guests sat on hard wooden chairs, sometimes with their feet up, over roaring wood fires, "spittin' around and makin' 'emselves sociable" with juleps, egg-nogg, apples and cider.

Every man shaved; wore a bell-crowned hat, a swallow-tailed coat with a horse-collar; carried a turnip-shaped time-keeper in his waist-band, with a heavy seal hanging out; had his breeches pockets full of silver half-dollars; wore round toed boots and linen shirts; cased his throat with high standing shirt collars; ate all manner of nauseous quack medicines; dined at one o'clock (some families eating the pudding before the meat); took naps in the afternoon—on Sundays preferring the pews of the church for that purpose; smoked "long nines"; ate fried oysters and lobster salads, and drank fiery Madeira or punch at 12 o'clock at night. Got his feet wet on slushy days, took awful colds and rheumatisms, sent for Dr. Sangrado and was bled, blistered and leeched; had night-mare, head-ache, dyspepsia, fever, delirium, death, and darkened room.

THE PIONEER M. E. CHURCH.

A correspondent of the Cleveland Leader, giving an account of a religious

quarterly meeting held in Perkins, Erie County, says:

It may not be generally known that the Methodist Episcopal Society in Perkins, this county, was one of the earliest organized in Northern Ohio; yet such is the fact. As early as 1815 the first Methodist "class" was formed by the colony that came from Connecticut and settled in the place the previous autumn. From its first inception to the present time the fires upon her church altars have been kept burning. Some of the brightest intellects have ministered at her sacred desk that in after time were honored with places of honor among the chief ministers of the church at large.

THE STATE OF OHIO.

The generally received opinion as to the date when Ohio began its existence as a State is an error. The first State constitution was made to take effect without being submitted to the people, and it is therefore assumed generally that the date of its adoption fixes the time of the birth of the State—November 29, 1802. Colonel Whittlesey shows, however, that Congress did not approve the State constitution and recognize the State until early in the next year; and that the State government was not surrendered to Gov. Tiffin—the first governor-elect under the constitution—till March 3d, 1803.—This last is therefore the date of the beginning of the existence of the State.

DEATH OF DR. TALIAFERRO—ANOTHER HERO OF PERRY'S VICTORY.

In the last number of the *Pioneer*, we published a statement showing that four or five of Perry's men then survived.—One of them was Dr. Taliaferro, whose demise since is announced in the following editorial of the Cincinnati Times:

A few years since the city of Cleveland dedicated a handsome monument to the memory of Commodore Perry and the heroes of the battle of Lake Erie.

At that time there was a small band of those heroes gathered together to witness the imposing ceremonies of the occasion—less than twenty of them, if we remember correctly—and since that time one by one they have been called to rest from their labors, until this morning, Dr. W. T. Taliaferro, of this city, the only one of that gallant company known to remain, met his last enemy, and succumbed to the fate of all.

Dr. Taliaferro was born at Newington, Orange County, Virginia, January 16th, 1795. His father soon after moved to Kentucky.

In the war of 1812, young Taliaferro, then only 17 years of age, volunteered in the army then fighting against England. The regiment to which he belonged was stationed near Sandusky Bay, and it was while they were there that the conflict between the British and the United States Navies which was afterward made famous at the battle of Lake Erie, was imminent. During the latter part of August of that year, Commodore Perry issued a call for naval recruits from the army stationed near Sandusky, and of the regiment to which young Taliaferro belonged, twenty-seven enlisted, himself being one of the number. He was one of the seamen on the vessel "Somers," which came into the battle of Lake Erie as one of the reserves. It did good fighting, however, and a number of those on board were injured, and we believe one or two killed. In 1813, he was honorably discharged from the service of the United States, and his letter of discharge is treasured up as one of the mementoes of a life not without thrilling incidents.

After leaving the service, he devoted himself to the study and practice of medicine, and since 1841 resided in Cincinnati.

THE FIRST McADAM ROAD.

John S. Williams, Civil Engineer, in a card to the Cincinnati Gazette, says:

"The road through Fulton township, from the old corporation line, was located in the year 1829, and finished in two years. That was the starting of Cincinnati from being a little town to the growth of a large city."

When we look at this first effort of the infant, and compare it with the present great improvements of the giant city, we see how the prosperity of communities depends on the spirit of enterprise in their population. The same spirit which built the first mile of McAdam road into Cincinnati village, afterward constructed the first mile of railroad, and then multiplied that into hundreds and thousands of miles of iron track concentrating into a great commercial and manufacturing city.

A PIONEER HUNTING STORY.

When I first came into Huron County there was but one house where now stands the beautiful City of Norwalk, and that was occupied by the late Platt Benedict, Esq. I located in an adjoining township and in a few years had got a small improvement and a half dozen sheep which I let run in a small lot around my house; but they proved too great a temptation for the wolves, who came in the darkness of the night and killed one and ate out the hams of another which I found alive the next morning. I was bound to have satisfaction by trapping them. I built a small pen adjoining the woods, leaving an opening on one side, and set a trap in the doorway, and tied a live sheep in the pen. The wolves came the first night, but dared not enter the pen, but went on the opposite side from the door and tore about like wild-fire to drive out the sheep, which in its struggles to get away from the wolves, got one foot in the trap, and the bone was badly fractured. I amputated the leg and dressed it in the best manner. The next night I tied another sheep in the pen and set the trap outside opposite the doorway, and a drove of wolves came and tried the same way to drive out the sheep, but one very large old fellow got in the trap. The trap was very heavy and had some four feet of log chain attached to it. The wolf would leap ten feet at a jump with that clog on his foot. The next morning I and some others followed him 1½ miles and found him concealed in the bushes. A rifle ball dispatched him, and the County Clerk gave me six dollars bounty for his ears, and I got fifty cents for his hide.—In a little while I caught another; he was a smaller one, and was very docile. I took him home alive, with the trap on his foot. After sporting with him and my dog, I got six dollars for his ears.

I had sympathy for that sheep going on three legs, and made a wooden leg and put it on her, which was such a relief to her in getting about, that I never was prosecuted for malpractice in Surgery.

A PIONEER.

Bronson, Dec. 20, 1872.

In 1873, the two hundredth anniversary of the first settlement of white men in Illinois was celebrated at Starved Rock, on the Illinois River, half way between SaSalle and Ottawa, at which point Fort St. Louis was founded by LaSalle, the French explorer, in 1673.

Mr. A. J. Coit, of Greenfield, left at our office lately, a piece of fence rail which was split by L. A. Ashley, over fifty years ago, and has since been exposed to the weather on the farm of Mr. C. It is blue ash, and is remarkably well preserved, and, though the outside is weather beaten, the interior is as hard and firm as a piece of bone.—*Norwalk Reflector, July* 22, 1874.

THE MORAVIAN MISSION.

We notice in the proceedings of the Historical and Philosophical Society of Ohio, the following item:

John D. Caldwell, Esq., from the committee to whom the Diary of David Zeisberger, a Moravian missionary, who spent the greater part of a long life preaching to the Indians at Gnadenhutten (now Tuscarawas County), Ohio, and who died at the age of 88 in the year 1808, was referred, reported the same back, with the statement that it embraced an interesting history of that portion of Ohio between the years 1781 and 1798, and recommended its translation from the German, in which it is written, at the earliest practicable period.

The volume is an interesting looking one, closely written upon the coarse paper of the time, and bearing unmistakable marks of age. It was presented to the Society by Hon. Ebenezer Lane, of the Supreme Court of Ohio, accompanied by an address delivered by him, which is now preserved with the volume.

We also notice a statement in the press that Rev. Elisha Jacobs, of the Methodist Church, the proprietor of that part of the old Schoenbrunn tract in Ohio upon which the original Indian village of Schoenbrunn was built by Zeisberger, has generously granted and conveyed to the Moravian Church a small space of ground immediately surrounding the spring after which the missionary town was named. It is in contemplation shortly to erect a suitable and permanent inclosure of the spot, which is already marked by a marble slab commemorative of its history, placed there chiefly through the instrumentality of John Judy, Esq., of New Philadelphia, to whom we owe much of the interest which has been newly awakened in the neighborhood in behalf of its Moravian antiquities.

One of the noblest chapters in Pioneer history is that which recounts the toils and achievements of the Moravian Missionaries in Ohio, and it should be published for all to read.

Miss Lucy Langdom Nowell was born in Alfred, July 4, 1776, on the day and very near the hour of the signing of the Declaration of Independence. When eight years of age she united with the Alfred Shakers, and has since lived with them. When 84 years of age she wove thirty-four yards of cloth, and at 96 knit ten pairs of mittens. She has never been in a railroad car, and is in excellent health. If she lives till 1876, a Pullman palace-car will be dispatched to her native town to transport her to Boston. From thence she will be carried direct to the Quaker City, where her presence will be one of the features of the great centennial.—*Boston Journal.*

"TAKE IT COOL."

A correspondent in Wakeman, Huron County, writes:

The first piece of wheat sowed in Wakeman was in the year 1817, fifty-five years ago. Three families only wintered here that year. L. B. Pierce, a present resident of Wakeman, helped to open most of the roads in this town. In 1851 Mr. Pierce went to Pittsfield for a hired girl. In crossing the Black river with a double team, there being no bridge and the water high, he came near losing his life and that of his team also. He drove in, and immediately the horses, wagon and all were afloat in a strong current.—Pierce got up and stood on the seat, but soon found he could not keep his balance. Then taking the lines in his hand, and his coat on his arm, he struck out and swam beside the buggy and guided the horses diagonally to where the current

struck the bank. The horses came to the shore, but the bank being so steep that they could not touch their hind feet, he swam around and unhitched them, taking one at a time out, after fastening the buggy pole to a tree. He then hitched to the pole and drew the buggy out. Pierce says all that saved him was that as quick as he found himself afloat, he said to himself, "Now it's no time to be excited, and I will take it cool;" and it was this that saved all but the cushion, which floated down the stream and was lost.—The moral of this story is; Always take it cool.

OLD ELECTION RETURNS.

Mr. R. H. Penfield has handed us a fragment of a copy of the Elyria Advertiser, printed in the fall of 1834. It contains an abstract of the votes cast at the October election of that year, which is of much interest. There were 1,620 votes polled for Governor in the county, of which Findlay, the Whig candidate, received 818, and Lucas, the Democratic candidate, received 802. The vote in Elyria stood, for Findlay 138, Lucas 141. —*Elyria Democrat.*

Upon referring to our old files we find that there were 2,699 votes polled for Governor, in the fall of 1834, in what was then Huron County, of which Findlay received 1,582 and Lucas 1,117. The vote in Norwalk stood, for Findlay, 152, Lucas, 107; total, 259, or 20 less than Elyria's vote.—*Norwalk Reflector.*

The following is a copy of the record of the first election ever held in Amherst. It was kept upon a half sheet of foolscap paper, and is said never to have been recorded in any book of record in the town. The original is in the hands of a grandson of Mr. Joseph Quigley, who was one of the judges of the election:

Poll Book of the election held in the Township of Black River, in the County of Huron, on the fourteenth day of October, in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and seventeen. Joseph Quigley, Quartus Gillmore, and Adoniram Webb, Judges; and Daniel Perry, John Morrell, clerks of this election, were sworn (as the law directs,) previous to entering on the duties of their respective offices.

1. John S. Reid
2. Dan. T. Baldwin
3. Jacob Shupe
4. Joseph Quigley
5. Quartus Gillmore
6. Adoniram Webb
7. Reuben Webb
8. Stephen Cable
9. Daniel Perry
10. John Morrell
11. Caleb Smith
12. Fred'k Onstine
13. Daniel Onstine
14. Samuel Cable
15. Henry Onstine
16. James O'Neal
17. George Kelso

It is by us certified that the number of electors at the election amounts to seventeen.

Quartus Gillmore, Joseph Quigley, Adoniram Webb } Judges of Election

We do hereby certify that Aaron Wheeler had seventeen votes for Senator. David Abbott had seventeen votes for Representative. Lewis Dells had seventeen votes for Representative. Ebenezer Merry had fifteen votes for Commissioner, Leman Farewell had seventeen votes for Sheriff, Joseph Strong had one vote for Commissioner, Ephriam Johnston had one vote for County Commissioner, Orsmer Kellogg had nine votes for Coroner.

(Signed) Quartus Gillmore, Joseph Quigley, Adoniram Webb } Judges of Election

Attest.

Daniel Berry, John Morrell } Clerks.

—*Oberlin News.*

Major Joseph Sprague, of Wooster, Ohio, assembled his little boys and girls together a few days since to see how they were getting on. The Major is ninety-nine, his wife ninety-four, and the united ages of their six children, including an adopted daughter, 465 years.

A PEDESTRIAN PIONEER.

The Cleveland Leader of August 3d, 1874, gives the following sketch of one of the hardy pioneers of the Western Reserve, who helped to build the foundations of its prosperity:

In 1805, a young man, about thirty years of age, started on foot from a little manufacturing town on the Naugalac river, in Connecticut, to see his land on the Western Reserve, he being one of the proprietors of a township now in Lorain County. He came by the way of Albany, Buffalo, Erie and Cleveland, and after viewing his purchase, returned on foot by way of Pittsburgh, Philadelphia, and Baltimore. In 1809, he again started from the same place, traveled over the former route on foot to purchase a place for his family. They started late in the year and arrived in Cleveland from Buffalo on the first day of November of that year on board of a little vessel commanded by a Captain Hathaway. He built a log cabin, which stood near the mouth of the Cuyahoga river near where the C. C. C. & I. round house now is. There they resided till September of 1812. Soon after the war was declared between the United States and England. Cleveland then contained less than one hundred inhabitants, and the country being sparsely settled by whites, and large bodies of Indians at the west which would naturally join the British standard, it was considered quite unsafe, especially for women and children, to live in this vicinity. This family, then consisting of the wife, three girls and a boy, the children aged respectively, 13, 11 and 7 years. The youngest was six months old. On the 28th day of September of that year, the wife, with a horse, saddle and bridle, started with her little family for that town on the Naugalac river in Connecticut, and arrived there safely in four weeks with her little family, going afoot most of the way herself. On the 4th day of July, 1824, that boy, being then 12½ years old, started from a point twenty-four miles southerly from Cleveland and walked there, and on the 4th day of July, 1874—it being fifty years from the last mentioned time—he started from the same place on foot and walked again to the city of Cleveland.

The fiftieth anniversary of the pastoral labors of Rev. Samuel Marks, of Huron, Erie County, was celebrated by his parishioners and the citizens generally, on the evening of March 14, 1874. He was ordained Deacon of the Protestant Episcopal Church by the venerable Bishop White, in St. Andrew's Church, Philadelphia, March 14th, 1824. In the next year, he was ordained Priest in St. Paul's Church, in the same city, and was then sent to Northern Pennsylvania, where he cultivated a large spiritual field for the next twelve years. In 1836, he went West, settling in Ann Arbor, Michigan, under Bishop McCoskry, remaining there three years. From that place he removed to the diocese of Bishop Kemper, taking charge of a parish in Racine, Wisconsin. His next change was to Huron, where he has remained thirty-two years and where he still has charge of the pastorate.

COOPER'S "BEE-HUNTER" DEAD.

Judge Bazil Harrison, of Prairie Ronde, Mich., the first white man that settled in Schoolcraft, the first Judge of Kalamazoo County, and the original character of Cooper's "Bee-Hunter," died Sunday, August 13, 1874, at the age of 104 years and 6 months. He had no disease, but had worn the thread of life completely out and passed peacefully to rest. He had always been a devout Christian, and for over seventy years a member of the Methodist Church. He settled on the farm where he died forty-seven years ago, taking his deed from the United States.

APRIL COLD WEATHER.

Mr. A. J. Coit, one of the worthy pioneers of Greenfield, in Huron County, in a communication to the Reflector, dated April 23, 1874, in reply to a statement of the Boston Traveller, that the "record "of fifty years shows but one April "morning as cold as was Sunday morn-"ing," April 5, 1874, says:

In running back over my record I do not have to go far to find an April colder than the present one, and for the benefit of your readers who take an interest in such records, I send you some items regarding the weather of the past Aprils since 1857. In March, 1857, when the sun crossed the line, the wind settled after the equinoctial storm to the northeast, and after every rain we had that spring, we had a cold spell with the wind settled in the northeast, and farmers in this vicinity fed their stock through the month of May, and so far as my record informs me, we have not had such a spring as that was since. The present April for backwardness comes the nearest thus far to that of 1857. In April, 1857, we had 19 mornings when the thermometer was below freezing: the 6th, 18°; 7th, 16°;—17th, 20°. Same year, May 11th, 32°; 12th, 30°; 13th, 32°; 17th, 28°.

Coldest morning in April, 1858, the 27th, 20°: in 1856, the 9th, 24°; in 1860, the 2d, 24°; 27th, 25°; in 1861, the 15th, 28°; 19th, 28°; in 1862, the 25th, 28°; in 1863, the 4th, 5th and 9th, 24°; in 1864, the 29th, 28°; in 1865, the 8th, 26°; in 1866, the 9th, 28°; in 1867, the 6th and 12th, 26°; in 1868 there were some very cold mornings, but after the middle of the month we had nice warm weather. We had twelve mornings below freezing: the 3d and 4th, 27°; 5th, 8°; 6th, 15°; 7th, 25°; 9th, 22°; coldest morning in April, 1869, the 14th, 25°; in 1870, the 26th, 30°; in 1871, the 16th, 30°; in 1872, the 4th and 16th, 22°; in 1873, the 24th, 28°; in 1874, the 1st, 24°; 2d, 24°; 3d, 28°; 4th, 18°; 5th, 24°; 6th, 28°; 12th, 16°; 18th, 26°; twelve mornings thus far below freezing.

Mrs. Drake, a widow lady of Muhlenburg County, Ky., has in her possession an apple which has been in existence since the beginning of the Revolutionary War. The Greenville Gazette gives this account of it: "The soldier, Mr. Drake, received the apple from his betrothed just as he departed for the army of Washington; kept it during the whole war; returned after the surrender of Yorktown, and married the fair donor. The apple is sacredly preserved in the family. It is dry and shriveled, nothing remaining but the woody fiber. The heirloom is highly prized by every member of the family."

THE OLDEST CITIZEN OF OHIO.

The question having arisen, Who is the oldest citizen of Ohio? the Marietta Register gives the following information on the subject: "Col. Agustus Stone came here in 1790, when ten years old. But our venerable fellow-citizen, Ebenezer Battelle, of Newport, who was ninety-five years old August 6th last, came here with his father, Col. Ebenezer Battelle, from Boston, arriving in Marietta in December, 1788—eighty-five years ago this month. Father Battelle has undoubtedly been a citizen of Ohio longer than any other person now living. He was married in Belpre, to Mary Greene, in 1800, who died July 24, 1871—their married life extending the remarkable length of seventy-one years. It may here be remarked that Mrs. Sarah [Brown] Gillespie, born in Pittsburgh, 1788, arrived with her family at Cincinnati, January 10, 1790; that Wm. Moody, of Cincinnati, was born there, March 17, 1790, and they are still living."

THE MEETING OF THE WATERS.

Under this heading a correspondent of the Albany Evening Journal mentions the fact that on the 26th of October, 1825, the waters of Lake Erie were mingled with those of the Hudson river and Atlantic Ocean by means of the Erie canal. The event was deemed worthy of great demonstrations, the booming of cannon, ringing of bells, orations, &c.— From Buffalo to Albany the roar of cannon was answered from village to village. The writer adds:

"The fiftieth anniversary of this great event is at hand, and will it not be mete to commemorate it while some of the men who advocated and sustained the construction of the canal yet remain among us? Such men as Samuel B. Ruggles, Thurlow Weed, Theodore S. Faxon and others, if living in 1875, should be leaders in such a celebration. In spite of all opposition to 'Clinton's Ditch,' the worst treatment from contractors' rings during the process of enlargement, and the bad management which has sometimes loaded it down, it has gloriously vindicated the wisdom of its advocates. Will some one move for a due observance of the semi-centennial of the 'Grand Canal?'"

RE-UNION OF THE NORTH OHIO REGIMENTS.

On the 28th of August, 1874, an interesting event occurred at Clyde, being a re-union of the regiments formed in Northern Ohio. It is estimated that over seven thousand people were present. The following shows the approximate number of soldiers of the various regiments as they were reported:

Miscellaneous organizations,	250
Third O. V. C.,	200
Twenty-fourth O. V. I.,	18
One Hundred and First O. V. I.,	81
One Hundred and Eleventh O. V. I.,	55
Twenty-third O. V. I.,	48
Tenth O. V. C.,	55
Mexican Soldiers,	50
Soldiers of 1812,	8
Sixty-fourth O. V. I.,	17
One Hundred Twenty-third O. V. I.,	200
Fifty-fifth O. V. V. I.,	190
One Hundred Sixty-fourth O. V. I.,	20
One Hundred Sixty-ninth O. V. I.,	60
Seventy-second O. V. I.,	175
Eighth O. V. I.,	75
One Hundred Ninety-sixth O. V. I.,	15
Forty-ninth O. V. I.,	140
Sixty-fifth O. V. I.,	16
One Hundred and Forty-fifth O. V. I.,	30

The following are the names, residences and ages of the surviving veterans of the War of 1812, who were in the procession formed, wearing badges, and had enlisted from five different States:

Thomas Holcomb, Fremont, 86 years.
Kiah Gould, Clyde, 82 years.
William Roberson, Clyde, 82 years.
William Magee, Centerton, Huron Co., 79 years.
Israel Britle, Clyde, 79 years.
David Deel, Fremont, 81 years.
Joseph George, Clyde, 79 years.
Julian Tressy, Clyde, 79 years.

DEATH OF A WESTERN PIONEER.

We clip the following from the Leavenworth (Kansas) Daily Call. It was written by Mr. H. Buckingham, formerly of Norwalk, who crossed the plains with the deceased in 1851. He pays a merited tribute to an old friend. Capt. Smith had many friends in Huron and Erie counties who will regret to hear of his decease. He married some years ago a daughter of Deacon Stone, formerly from Cook's Corners, and often visited that place. While on a visit to Findlay, during the War, he gave $1,000, to aid the soldiers' families, and aided, we believe, the "boys in blue" on the Pacific slope in fitting out expeditions to keep the Mor-

mons and Indians in check. The Call says:

"We regret to learn that Capt. Hiram Smith, one of the early pioneers of the Pacific slope, died a few weeks ago in San Francisco, after an illness of several months.

Capt. Smith first crossed the plains to Oregon with pack horses from St. Joe or Westport as early as 1845, taking with him a large drove of cattle. Returning the next year, he concluded to abandon Plains life, and settled in Ohio. At the breaking out of the California gold excitement in 1848, he concluded to again try the Pacific coast, and took out a large train in '51, starting from Council Bluffs. He re-crossed a few years later, and remained in the 'States' a short time. He made his third trip from this city in '62, and his 'outfit' was the finest (though not large) that ever left Leavenworth.—It was his intention to cross the plains, over which he had traveled so often when a wilderness, on the Pacific Railroad; but death prevented, and he now sleeps 'where rolls the Oregon.'

Captain Smith was a pioneer of the old school. Though surrounded by wealth, all the luxuries of civilized life were as nothing, when compared to the camp-fire and the 'sage and sand' of the plains.—To him there was a charm to a pioneer's life that time or circumstance could not efface.

The old class of pioneers who crossed 'the Great American Desert' almost a quarter of a century ago, are fast passing away, and we shall 'never see their like again.' All honor to their memories.—They opened the pathway of civilization to an unexplored and almost unknown region, not for the love of gain, but to people a country occupied to a great extent by foreigners. They desired to extend the area of American institutions, and found homes and find the way for the hardy pioneers who were sure to follow. Had it not been for them, Oregon and California would not have belonged to the United States. American pioneers were the first to announce that the country bordering on the Pacific was worth having, and our government was not slow in taking advantage of the knowledge they furnished.

All honor, then to the memory of those who opened up this wilderness; who braved the dangers of the Indians and starvation, and who first made a path across a wilderness now followed by the locomotive.

The many plainsmen who have partaken of Capt. Smith's hospitality will not soon forget him. The hungry stranger was always welcome to his camp-fire.—'Peace to his ashes.'"—*Norwalk Reflector.*

RETURN JONATHAN.

The father of Return J. Meigs was born at Middletown, Ct. In his youth he loved and addressed a fair Quakeress of Middletown, whose home was very near his own residence, but found much difficulty in obtaining her hand, her objection resulting from sectarian bias.—She repeatedly answered his protestations of fidelity and attachment with:

"Nay, Jonathan; I respect thee much, but I cannot marry thee; for better is a dinner of herbs and contentment, than a stalled ox and contention."

Mr. Meigs finally wearied with the profitless suit, and paid Ruth what he meant should be his last visit as a lover. He held her hand and blessed her, and having told her that he hoped in time the wound in his heart might be healed in happy alliance with some other family, he spoke his farewell. The kind and yet sorrowful word, spoken with tender softness, and with tearful eyes, fell upon her heart with awakening power, and as he vaulted to his saddle to ride away, the fair Quakeress, full of love and relenting, beckoned to him with her hand, at the same time calling out:

"Return, Jonathan! Return, Jonathan!"

To him they were the sweetest words

that ever fell upon mortal ears. He returned, and the day was speedily fixed for the celebration of their nuptials.—The first child born to them was a son, and the happy father, in commemoration of the blissful words which had bidden him into his earthly heaven, had him baptized and christened "Return Jonathan." And the child thus curiously named grew up to an important manhood. Among the officers of the American Revolution he was one of the best and bravest, and for his brilliant exploit against the British at Sag Harbor he received the thanks of Congress and a sword. He was a warm friend and supporter of President Jefferson, by whom he was appointed Indian Agent for the Cherokees, among which people he passed the last of his well spent and useful life.—*New York Ledger.*

THE FIRST VESSEL ON LAKE ERIE.

The Jamestown Journal says:

John Thompson, the father of the late J. Edgar Thompson, President of the Pennsylvania Railroad, was for several years in the service of the great "Holland Land Company," in Western Pennsylvania and New York. At the close of one of his engagements (1793) he encamped at Presque Isle, now Erie, Pa., and with one assistant, and without other tools than usually attend an engineering expedition, he built the schooner White Fish, in which he sailed from that place for Philadelphia, conveying the schooner by teams of oxen around the Falls of Niagara to Lake Ontario, thence to where Oswego now stands, and up a small river to Oneida Lake, passing through which, and carrying his vessel again by land to the Mohawk, followed that stream to the Hudson and thence to the Atlantic Ocean. From this he entered Delaware Bay and reached Philadelphia, when his schooner was taken to Independence square, where it remained until destroyed by time. This was the first vessel that ever passed from Lake Erie to New York and Philadelphia.

The old Gibbs farm of 166 acres, a mile and a half East of the Court House, on Main street, in Norwalk, has been cut up into tracts, ranging from half an acre upward in size.

The Wooster Republican has been furnished a copy of the Ohio Spectator, published in Wooster, dated December 21, 1818. This Congressional District was then composed of thirteen counties, and was called the VIth District. The vote at the Congressional election that year was as follows:

Counties.	Col. John Sloan.	Peter Hitchcock.
Stark, . . .	655	71
Knox, . . .	332	59
Trumbull, . .	423	778
Wayne, . . .	864	9
Huron, . . .	71	333
Medina, . . .	105	82
Tuscarawas, .	471	1
Columbiana, .	582	388
Cuyahoga, . .		567
Ashtabula, . .	3	349
Portage, . .	61	511
Geauga, . . .	2	567
Richland, . .	633	43
Total, . . .	4203	3758

THE LENGTHENING YEARS OF MAN.

In an interesting paper by Dr. Edward Jarvis, in the fifth annual report of the Massachusetts Board of Health, the following vital statistics, past and present, of various countries, strikingly show how

the advance of civilization has prolonged life: In ancient Rome, in the period of 200 to 500 years after the Christian era, the average duration of life in the most favored class was thirty years. In the present century the average longevity of persons of the same class is fifty years. In the sixteenth century the average longevity in Geneva was 21.21 years, between 1814 and 1833, it was 40.60, and as large a portion now live to 70 as lived to 43, 300 years ago. In 1693 the British Government borrowed money by selling annuities on lives from infancy upward, based on the basis of average longevity. The treasury received the price, and paid the annuities regularly as long as the annuitants lived. The contract was mutually satisfactory and profitable. Ninety-seven years later Mr. Pitt issued another tontine or scale of annuities, on the basis of the same expectation of life as in the previous century. These latter annuitants, however, lived so much longer than their predecessors, that it proved to be a very costly loan to the Government. It was found that while 10,000 of each sex in the first tontine died under the age of 28, only 5,772 males and 6,416 females in the second tontine died at the same age 100 years later. The average life of the annuitants of 1693 was 20.5 while those of 1790 lived 33 years and 9 months after they were 30 years old.—From these facts, says Dr. Jarvis, it is plain that life, in many forms and manifestations, and probably in all, can be expanded in vigor, intensity and duration, under favorable circumstances. For this purpose it is only necessary that the circumstances amid which, and the conditions in which, any form of life is placed, should be brought in harmony with the law appointed for its being.

At Dunmow, in England, in 1874, was observed the ancient custom of presenting a flitch of bacon to the married couple who were prepared to come forward and swear, before a court constituted for the purpose, that for at least a year and a day they had lived together without either offending the other in thought, word or deed. The present celebration was carried out by the local lodge of the Order of Foresters. The custom is generally held to have been instituted about 650 years ago, in the reign of Henry III., by Sir Robert Fitzwalter, lord of the manor of Dunmow.

MISSIONARY ISLAND.

A correspondent of the Norwalk Reflector writes to that paper an account of a visit in September, 1874, to the battle-ground of "Mad Anthony Wayne," from which we extract the following:

As the evening shadows were lengthening out we arrived at the mansion of Mr. Oscar Ballou, a well-to-do farmer whose residence overlooks this memorable Island. The father of Mr. Ballou was one of the early pioneers of the Maumee valley, settling upon this spot in the year 1818, when all around was a howling wilderness. To his son Oscar we are indebted for the legends and incidents which we offer your readers. Missionary Island, where we are at present rusticating, is a well known Moravian station, founded as early as 1800. The Station, School and Block-House still remain, although the tooth of time has changed them into strange and weird structures. Here, Christian love and song mingled with the murmur of the Maumee. The Island proper separates the broad river for nearly two miles, containing nearly 300 acres, one-half of which is under cultivation, and at present occupied by Mr. Henry Thomas. Upon this Island for two weeks the wily savages held Wetzel at bay. He had important messages for Gen. Harrison at Fort Meigs from Gen. Wayne, which fact by some means became known to Proctor and his allies. With all his cunning, Wetzel had failed for nearly a fortnight in baffling

the savages and gaining the main land.—At length, moved to desperation, he covered a stump with wild rice and launched out one hazy moonlight night, and under cover of the rice floated to the rock—Roch de Bœuf. The savages scarcely dreamed the Scout would venture to swim the rapids with their jagged rocks and seething waters, but no emergency was too great for the intrepid Wetzel.—Caught in the eddies, he grasped the overhanging rock, and slowly and carefully drew himself up the cliff. A few hours ushered him into the presence of Gen. Harrison, to whom he delivered his important dispatches. At the head of the Island at the present time is situated the Club and Boat House of the Findlay and Columbus Clubs, who spend the spring and fall hunting and fishing in this region. Scarcely a quarter of a mile below Missionary Island is Roch de Bœuf (pronounced Rush de Boo), facing a cliff with a jagged, rocky, perpendicular face, 90 feet from the river bed, and extending 2,000 feet above and below de Bœuf.

The New London (Huron Co., Ohio,) Record says that one of the citizens of that place, 93 years of age, was wounded in the battle of Fort Erie, in 1812, and receives a pension. He enjoys the best of health, walks occasionally to church, a distance of about half a mile, and readily reads ordinary print without the aid of spectacles.

The daughters of the Pioneers are some of them not unworthy of their mothers in their skill with the needle. Miss Leonora Hoyt, daughter of E. C. Hoyt, of Norwalk, Ohio, has made a blockwork quilt containing 1224 blocks and 3,779 separate pieces, tastefully arranged and beatifully wrought together.

Pioneer Societies have been formed in a number of the northern counties of Ohio, and at their gatherings many incidents occur and events are related which are worthy of record. At a Pioneer Picnic in Medina, August 20, 1874, Mrs. Randall of Lafayette, was the oldest lady, having seen ninety-two winters; her oldest child is 72, her oldest grandchild 48, and her oldest great-grandchild 30. She is strong and spry, and a few days since walked three miles to visit a neighbor.—Mrs. Wideman, of Seville, Judge Henry Hosmer, Captain Wilson and Mrs. Collier were afterwards introduced, all being over 80 years of age. Mr. Roberts, from Chatham, had several Indian flints, and a tomahawk which had been in the family fifty-five years. He told of a Mrs. Hewlitt, who is over 80 years of age, and who has in her possession a shovel with which she dug a well over fifty years ago.—Both the shovel and well are in a good state of preservation, members of her family using water from the well at the present time.

At a Pioneer Picnic held by the Pioneer Historical Society of Summit and Medina Counties, at Averill's Grove, on the line between the two Counties, Sept. 10, 1874, there were nine hundred teams by actual count, and the number of people present was estimated at from four to six thousand.

Mrs. Chloe Hickox, of Akron, on her last birthday gave a tea-party at which eleven old ladies were present, whose aggregate ages were 793 years. The eldest was 86, the youngest 53, and the average 73 years.

MINERALS.

Evidences have been found of the existence of iron and lead ore in the Firelands and vicinity. In 1873, at Tiffin, in the adjoining county of Seneca, J. C. Yingling & Co., in sinking a well, at the depth of twenty-four feet reached a vein of solid lead ore which was four inches in thickness. The Tiffin Tribune remarking on this fact, says that in the neighborhood, at different times, lead ore has been found.

Walter McFarland, now 83 years old, settled in Greenfield, Fairfield County, Ohio, May 4, 1799, and has resided there ever since—nearly 76 years.

At a sociable held at the residence of Rev. J. G. Bowersox, in Fitchville, Huron County, in January, 1874, eight persons were present whose united ages were 589 years.

Marietta claims the oldest Free Mason Lodge in Ohio.

Michael McKinnon, aged 92 years, died at his residence in Columbiana Co., Ohio, on the 27th of April, 1874. In 1798, when he was about sixteen years of age, he was U. S. mail carrier from the town of Washington, Washington County, Pa., via Georgetown, Beaver County, to Charlestown, (now Wellsburg) Brooke County, West Virginia. From Georgetown to Charlestown his route was along the Ohio river. At that day there was no road from Georgetown to Charlestown. His way was over a path in the wilderness. The mail was carried on horseback. The small streams that emptied into the Ohio were often dangerous in crossing, as frequently he had to swim his horse—the only resort when crossing the streams at high tide.

WHAT OLD MEN CAN DO.

The New York Tribune says:

The octogenarians are coming rapidly to the front of late years. It used to be said that old men shone most in council and young men in war. President Lincoln once said he had not much confidence in any general older than himself. But Moltke rehabilitated the old fighting men in the late war with France. Field-Marshal Wrangel recently celebrated his ninetieth birthday with great eclat in Berlin. General Concha, Marquis of Duero, who is past eighty, executed last week that brilliant and rapid movement on the Nervion which resulted in the retreat of the Carlists from Bilbao. And to prove that the old men have not lost their preëminence in counsel, while they have been taking away from the boys their lead in war, the first party leader in Europe to-day is M. Thiers, who has just completed his seventy-seventh year, and the most energetic and industrious of American Governors is John A. Dix, who was Major and Adjutant in the war of 1812. We think the poets may as well stop wailing over these degenerate days.

HISTORIC REMAINS.

A correspondent in Port Clinton, Ottawa County, writes that some laborers were excavating a ditch for the Lake Shore and Michigan Southern Railroad Company, at that place, when they came to what must have been a burial ground of the aborigines. The skeletons of two Indians were found—male and female—the skulls of which are now in the possession of W. B. Sloan, and are in a tolerable state of preservation. The others were of white persons, one of a man and the other of a child. These latter were buried in coffins at a depth of almost four feet—those of the Indians in a sitting posture, only two feet below the surface. By the side of the male Indian was found the skeleton of a dog, also in a fair state of preservation. The Indian must have been a large and powerful man, judging from the length and size of his arm and leg bones. Another peculiarity of the Indian skeleton was that all of his teeth were double and pointed, similar to the incisors of a dog. These bodies must have been interred nearly sixty years ago, when the chief business in that neighborhood was fur hunting, and ante-dating the celebrated Indian massacres which led to the hanging of two of their number and the driving out of the remainder.

At a Pioneer celebration in North Solon, Cuyahoga County, Ohio, September 9, 1874, among the relics exhibited was by Stephen Peck, of Bedford, an Indian hatchet, powder charger, and other relics taken from a mound in Michigan, beneath overgrowing trees a foot in diameter.—The hatchet was made of brass, neatly wrought with engravings of curious design, and was usable also as a smoke pipe by inserting a stem in the eye, as the hole was to all appearances hollowed out for the purpose.

Mr. A. H. Prouty, writing to the Sandusky Register from Bloomingville, Erie County, October 28, 1872, says:

We have been shown by Mr. George Beatty, of this place, an object of curiosity, unearthed by him in excavating on his premises just west of this village, for a cellar to his newly contemplated residence. It consists of the skull and a part of the bones of some human being, supposed, from its position and relics found with it, to be the body of an Indian.

Mr. Beatty was marking out the position of the cellar walls with a shovel, and while thus engaged, struck his implement with full force upon the skull, cutting it into several pieces. Discovering the nature of the obstruction, he carefully exhumed the remaining pieces and preserved them as best he could. Upon being brought to the air, they immediately showed a tendency to crumble and return to dust, which he had no means of preventing.

The parts now in Mr. Beatty's possession consist of a skull in several pieces, including the jaw bone and several teeth —eighteen teeth in all were found—a large bone thought to be a part of the leg, a small one supposed to belong to the arm, and one or two of the vertebræ.— Lying beside the red skin's remains were found a medium sized tomahawk, several stone arrows, and a queer shaped stone about two inches in length with a hole through the broad end, singularly engraved, as if with a knife, on either side.

Besides these aboriginal peculiarities, was also found a string of beads of button shape form, apparently wrought out of bone.

From the appearance of the body and relics found with it, it is supposed to be that of some chief or other dignitary connected with some wandering tribe, who frequented this locality many years since. It was but eighteen inches under the surface and was, consequently, much decomposed when unearthed.

A correspondent of the Cincinnati Commercial, writing from Upper Sandusky, Sept. 2, 1874, says:

This has been a most remarkable day in the history of this city, which, by the way, is a not uninteresting spot to the historian. Around the name of Upper Sandusky cluster many legends of the ill-fated Wyandots, the doomed *Lene Lenape.* It was near here that the dark tragedy which rendered the name of Crawford familiar was enacted. * * * For years, the memory of the "oldest inhabitant" reaches not back to the contrary, there has stood in the center of Main street, in the heart of the business portion of the town, a stately cottonwood tree. The town has improved; tall brick blocks have sprung up where the low wooden buildings used to stand, maple trees have been planted and have reached goodly proportions, and still the old cottonwood has stood sentinel in the center of the street, sure to be the object of remark by every visitor, and certainly the pride of the older citizens. But its time to fall had come, and to-day it was laid prostrate. The streets are grading at the present time, and as the tree occupied high ground, which had to be lowered to suit the grade, it was feared that the hold of the roots would be so weakened that the tree would be a constant danger to life and property, so last evening the city fathers decided, almost unanimously, that the tree must come down. * * *

* * In grading near the tree, bones of human beings had been discovered yesterday, also buttons, tarnished and badly oxydized, yet still bearing very plainly the stamp U. S. To-day, as the tree, which had been dug up, fell, a skull of unusually large proportions was revealed; and after the tree was entirely down the skeleton of a man was found exactly under the tree. From the bones which have been found, this man must have been of gigantic proportions—at least six feet nine inches in height.— Nails were also found, indicating that he had been buried in a coffin. No such indications were found with the other skeletons. It is conjectured (and this conjecture is strengthened by tradition) that this man was an officer, the others private soldiers, and that they were buried here some time in 1812 or 1813.— The tree seems to have been intended to mark the spot where this officer lay, and was evidently planted upon his grave.— For sixty years it has kept its trust; for sixty years it has kept its secret; but it has yielded the one and surrendered the other. The tree was of remarkable growth. It could have been of but small size when transplanted in 1813; to-day it was measured by Mr. Isaac Berry, a prominent merchant of the town, who informs me that it is eleven feet in circumference; truly a rapid growth for sixty-one years. The skeletons are carefully preserved, and will be buried with all solemnity. It is rumored that they are to be buried in the Court-house yard,

and a monument erected to the memory of these soldiers of 1812.

A very strange discovery, interesting to geologists, is reported by the Osage Mission (Kansas) Journal. In August, 1874, a human skull was found near the place, imbedded in a solid rock which was broken open by blasting. Dr. Weirley, of Osage Mission, compared it with a modern skull which he had in his office, and found that, though it resembled the latter in general shape, it was an inch and a quarter larger in greatest diameter, and much better developed in some other particulars. He says of the relic: "It is that of the cranium of the human species, of large size, imbedded in conglomerate rock of the tertiary class, and found several feet beneath the surface. Parts of the frontal, parietal, and occipital bones were carried away by explosion. The piece of rock holding the remains weighs some forty or fifty pounds, with many impressions of marine shells, and through it runs a vein of quartz, or within the cranium crystalized organic matter, and by the aid of a microscope, presents a beautiful appearance." Neither Lyell nor Hugh Miller, it is stated, nor any of the rest of the subterranean explorers, reports anything so remarkable as this discovery at Osage Mission. The Neander-man comes the nearest to it, but the Neanderthal bones were found in loam, only two or three feet below the surface, whereas this Kansas skull was discovered in solid rock.

The Tiffin Tribune of Sept. 17th, 1874, says:

Last week, a son of Thos. Knight, residing three miles south-west of this city, while engaged in digging potatoes, found a great curiosity in the form of the tooth of a mastodon. It was left at our office for the inspection of the curious, and has been examined by a great many, and several gentlemen who are naturalists pronounce it the finest specimen of the kind they have ever seen. The land in which it was found was formerly a swamp.

A description of the mastodon found by Dr. Warner in a swamp in Newburg, N. Y., and which is now in a Boston museum, is given in the American Encyclopædia. That skeleton is eleven feet high and seventeen feet long. The description of the teeth of that animal is given, of which it had twenty-four, and the sixth tooth of the upper jaw, which is laid down as "4-ridged, with a small heel, the points somewhat bifurcated, and the furrows deep, and 6¼ inches long by 3 inches wide," seems to fit the specimen we have. This tooth in size measures six and five-eighths inches long by three and nine-sixteenths inches wide. The furrows between the fangs are one and one-sixteenth inches deep, the fangs inclining slightly back. The length of the enamel of the tooth from the end of the fangs to the base is two and one-eighth inches.—The enamel shows where the fangs, which are bifurcated, or forked, shut together, it being slightly worn. The tooth weighs one pound fourteen and a half ounces.—It is a valuable specimen.

The Industrial Age says:

Hon. S. W. Hill, of Marshall, Mich., has been engaged during the past summer in making a thorough exploration of Isle Royal, Lake Superior, for mineral, and was successful beyond all anticipation. He writes us that many works of a race now extinct have been found, far exceeding in extent and importance anything of the kind in any other part of the world.

The remains of a considerable number of ancient copper mines have been lately discovered on Isle Royal, in Thunder Bay, on the northern border of the lake, which exhibit undoubted evidence of having been worked by a race of men long since extinct, and of whom we possess no knowledge save that left behind

by such traces as are now being brought to view.

Shafts of considerable depth, filled and choked with the accumulated debris of ages, have been opened, and in penetrating to a depth of sixty feet, tools of a wonderful workmanship have been discovered, together with charcoal remains, which marked the spot where skilled artisans formed from copper tools whose temper and durability would astonish the ingenious makers of the present day.—Hammers and chisels seem to have been the principal implements for working the mine, which, together with fire, reduced the ore to a condition which rendered its removal in detail easily accomplished.—Finely tempered knife blades have been picked out of the pit, and granite hammers of such sizes as to require the strength of no ordinary man to wield successfully. The Iron Age, in alluding to these discoveries on Isle Royal, says:

These discoveries, wonderful as they are, do not stand alone, nor do they present any new facts in relation to the people who formerly inhabited this continent. They simply go to strengthen the evidence that centuries before the written history of America, powerful and civilized communities occupied every portion of its domain, who, disappearing, left behind them proof of their progress in the arts and sciences, and their indubitable skill in agriculture.

GOLDEN WEDDINGS.

Mr. and Mrs. James Cole, of Norwalk, Huron County, had a pleasant surprise party at their residence, on the fiftieth anniversary of their marriage, January 15, 1874, by over one hundred guests, and received a number of presents and kind words appropriate to the occasion.

Mr. and Mrs. Daniel Miles, of Hartland, Huron County, celebrated their golden wedding January 31, 1874.—Valuable gifts were bestowed on the aged couple, and more valuable expressions of reverence and love, by their many relatives and friends assembled.

Mr. and Mrs. H. R. Adams, of Bellevue, celebrated their golden wedding at a joyful reunion of children, relatives and friends, May 8, 1874. There were present two other couples who had celebrated their fiftieth marriage anniversary. Of the company, thirty-eight were over 60 years, eighteen ovor 70 years, and one over 80 years of age.

On the 21st of September, 1874, the venerable Lyman B. Cowles and wife, of Jefferson, Ashtabula County, celebrated the fiftieth anniversary of their marriage.

A correspondent of the Cleveland Leader says:

The estimable couple received the congratulations of their guests in the simple manner of the good old times. Among them were several ladies and gentlemen who were present at the wedding of the host and hostess fifty years before.—Their names are Mr. W. E. Cowles, Mr. Benjamin Whiting, Mr. and Mrs. Lucius M. Austin, Mr. Enoch Ryder, and Miss Betsey M. Cowles, all of Austinburgh.

Mr. Cowles married Miss Catherine C. Root, of Catskill, N. Y., on Monday, September 21st, 1824, at the residence, in Austinburgh, of the bride's uncle, the Rev. Dr. Giles H. Cowles, who performed the ceremony. Out of the twenty-five guests present, only the above named people are living. The newly married couple immediately started off on their wedding tour in a one horse buggy for the home of the bride's parents in Catskill, N. Y. This was before the days of canals, railroads, drawing-room cars, Saratoga trunks and other modern innovations. At that time there was only one steamboat running on the lake, which made a round trip once in two weeks from Buffalo to Detroit. The ride of the wedded couple to Catskill occupied about sixteen days, and no modern fashionable couple with the aid of thousands of dollars of bridal presents, Parisian trousseau, mammoth Saratoga trunks, seven stories hotels equipped with elevators, drawing room cars, &c., ever had a happier wedding trip.

At Catskill they spent the following winter at the residence of the bride's father. Here Mrs. Cowles commenced preparations for housekeeping, which consisted mainly of spinning fabulous numbers of knots of yarn and linen threads, which she wove into first-class flannel blankets and linen sheets. The excellence of workmanship can be judged from the fact that she had on exhibition at her golden wedding some of the identical sheets and blankets she made fifty years before, with scarcely any wear! In those good old honest times there were no adulterations—no shoddy goods, no cheating as is now practiced in these degenerate days. In the spring following, Mr. and Mrs. Cowles returned to Austinburgh via Erie canal, which was then finished, and there settled down on their farm which they cultivated without intermission for forty years.

Mr. Lucius M. Austin, himself one of the pioneers of the county, made a short address to the friends who were assembled at the golden wedding. He stated that he had the pleasure of being present at the marriage of the host and hostess.—He remembered distinctly who were then present, but the most of them had passed away, and only a few were left to assist in celebrating the fiftieth anniversary of the marriage, who, he thought, were now all together. The people fifty years ago were more industrious and frugal than they are to-day. The girls then spun their own yarns, and had them woven into flannels, and appeared arrayed in nice comfortable flannel dresses, which added to the fresh, red, healthy cheeks the girls of fifty years ago had; he confessed it used to gladden his eyes to gaze at them. In those days the good matrons made their own cheese, and a good article did they make too, as the reputation of Ashtabula made cheese years ago will amply prove. Now the modern invention of a "Cheese Factory," has taken away from the matrons of to-day the labor of making cheese, hence he was sorry to say that he was afraid that they now put on more style than their good mothers before them did, merely because they "manufactured cheese," instead of "making cheese."

Fifty years ago the pioneers who settled the country were more pious and upright than the people of to-day are.—Then nobody ever thought of staying away from meeting, no matter what might be the state of the weather. The ox team would haul the family of the early pioneer two, three and four miles to meeting, over a most horribly muddy road, and no more fuss would be made about it than

modern people would make in getting up their carriage and going a short mile over a good road to church. In those good old times we never heard of people "going to church," it was invariably "going to meeting," and they went to meeting thoroughly. He was sorry to say people now-a-days did not "attend church" as they used to "attend meeting."

The occasion was wound up with a wedding dinner after the manner of "ye olden time." The venerable people present enjoyed themselves thoroughly, talking over the days of yore, when they first settled the country. It should be stated that Mr. Cowles' father was the late Jos. B. Cowles, who first settled Austinburgh in company with the late Judge Austin, Deacon Mills and others in the year 1800. The host, Mr. Cowles, was six years old when his father first came to Austinburgh. At that time the country was a howling wilderness, and not a road or a bridle path in existence. The work of the brave pioneers has changed the then wilderness into one of the most beautiful and productive regions in the country.—All honor to the pioneers of the Western Reserve, and may their memory be cherished for all time to come, is the wish of one who is proud to be able to say that he is a descendant of one of the early settlers.

MILITARY HISTORY—OFFICERS AND SOLDIERS OF THE FIRE-LANDS IN THE UNION ARMY.

From a History of the 123d Regiment Ohio Volunteer Infantry, edited by Lt. C. M. Keyes, published in July, 1874, we extract the following valuable and interesting information as to the officers and soldiers in that Regiment who volunteered and served in the War for the Union against the Rebellion.

We are indebted to Col. H. Kellogg and Capt. J. F. Randolph, Jr., for aid in selecting the names from the roster of the Regiment of those who were personally known to them as residents of the Firelands when they entered the service.

ORGANIZATION.

The 123d Regiment was organized under the second call for six hundred thousand troops, and was recruited during the months of August and September, 1862, in the counties of Erie, Huron, Seneca, Crawford, and Wyandot, and was rendezvoused at Monroeville, Huron Co.; some companies arriving late in August, while all were in camp early in September. Gen. J. A. Jones, of Norwalk, was post commander, and assigned companies to their quarters as they arrived, saw that they were properly subsisted, &c. All the companies, except K, were mustered into the United States service by Capt. E. W. H. Read, of the 8th U. S. Infantry, on the 24th and 29th days of September;

company K was mustered in by Capt. Chas. C. Goddard of the 17th Infantry, on the 16th of October, the day the Regiment left for the seat of war.

Among the Field and Non-Commissioned Staff Officers were the following from Huron County:

Quartermaster—Edwin H. Brown.

Sergeant-Major—Benjamin F. Blair.

Quartermaster-Sergeant — Elmer E. Husted.

Commissary-Sergeant — Frederick C. Wickham.

There were no residents of the Firelands enlisted in Companies A, D, F, H, or I.

COMPANY B.

Company B was recruited in Huron County, by Capt. Horace Kellogg, with headquarters at Norwalk. The company was full by the 25th of August, and after remaining in Norwalk for a time, went into camp at Monroeville early in September, and was mustered into the service on the 24th, as follows:

Captain—Horace Kellogg.

First Lieutenant—J. F. Randolph, Jr.

Second Lieutenant—Caleb D. Williams.

Sergeants—George J. Frith, Eugene Smith, Benjamin F. Blair, Harris E. Smith, George A. Darke.

Corporals—Ira D. Wells, George Buskirk, William H. Thomas, Samuel B. Caldwell, Edward L. Husted, Ezra R. Wait, William G. Alling, Josiah R. Fisher.

Musicians—George Williams, Joseph Sallabank.

Privates—Nelson Armstrong, Malvern Barnhart, Albert Blish, Enoch L. Birdseye, Albert Birch, John T. Benfer, Anson T. Bowen, Edwin J. Beverstock, William Barhite, Stanley F. Bond, Orrin G. Bond, Jehiel Castle, Elijah S. Conger, Henry S. Clapp, Irving Cole, Judson Castle, William G. Cummings, Richard Evans, Michael Freund, Reuben Fox, Amos Fox, Jordan Fox, John L. Griggs, Emanuel F. Goodell, Zerah Godfrey, Andros J. Gilbert, Elmer E. Husted, Rufus T. Holcomb, Palmer D. Hatch, Benjamin Holcomb, Philip H. Hoffman, Ezra H. Hoffman, William W. Hill, Ebenezer B. Harrison, Henry C. Hicks, Louis Kutcher, George Kutcher, Leonard Keller, Francis Little, Solon Lane, Noyes S. Lee, William Letts, Alfred W. Miller, Uriah Mogg, William Mann, Sylvanus A. Messeldine, Albert Nye, William R. Prouty, Emery Prouty, Clinton Prouty, Charles H. Reynolds, Henry C. Rushton, Charles Roe, Louis Rutherford, Bower W. Schnebly, Riley Sparks, Henry C. Stultz, John L. Smith, Henry J. Spangler, Thompson Smith, Edward Strickfather, Martin Stockmaster, Warren R. Smith, John Slater, George W. Slater, William Slater, Benjamin F. Skinner, Joseph Tuman, Anson H. Taylor, Loran Twiss, Ared Woodruff, Frederick C. Wickham, Seymour Waldron, Benjamin H. Williams, Edward H. Williams, Victor Weiss, Abishai W. Walter, Robert W. Burns.

COMPANY C.

Company C was recruited by Captain Charles Parmenter, in the county of Huron, commencing about the 9th of August. The company was full about the 24th, and went into camp at Monroeville early in September, and was mustered into the service on the 29th day of September, as follows:

Captain—Charles Parmenter.

First Lieutenant—Edgar Martin.

Second Lieutenant—Abner Snyder.

Sergeants—Frank H. Breckenridge, John Canady, Augustine L. Smith, Jas. Amadell, Lewis White.

Corporals—Marion Lester, Philander Miles, George A. Webster, William Odell, William H. Ramly, Norman H. Tilitson, Adison Barker, Simon P. Blake.

Musicians—Dennis Canfield, Clarke Canfield.

Teamster—Daniel G. West.

Privates—Hiram Baker, Nelson Baker, Albert Blanchard, W. F. Burnham, Thomas Beers, Romane Carns, William Carson, Sidney Carpenter, Jacob Carson, William Carr, Patrick Clark, Orrin Cole, Willis H. Conklin, Eureka Coit, Wilson Day, Hugh Bebow, Orry Decker, David F. Draper, Henry W. Erecwell, Charles Erecwell, Martin Fay, Daniel Fink, Geo. Fish, John B. Fairchilds, Addison M. Frye, Harvey E. Garrison, Henry Goodenough, Crary Green, Franklin Green, Thomas Grannis, John Harris, Frederick Hemingway, Seymour E. Leuts, William McKee, John W. Miller, John Miller, Wilson Moore, David B. Moore, Nelson L. Mosier, Charles Nixon, John L. Phillips, Franklin Phillips, Joseph H. Rhodes, Napoleon Robinson, John Salsbury, Jas. D. Skinner, Levi J. Steel, Simon Steel Jacob Steel, Josiah Snyder, Lyman Shephard, William H. Shaw, Lorin S. Springer, Thomas S. Seely, John Sifler, Fernando Sly, Otis Sykes, Christopher E. Tillotson, Cyrus Taylor, John Tow, Wm. Waggoner, Samuel White, John R. Wilson, Albert H. Wait, Hiram Whitmour, Alphord Bascom, Silas Simpson, Alonzo Lyn, John Murphy, Lafayette Loveland, Nathan Beers.

COMPANY E.

Company E was recruited in Huron County, by Capt. Samuel W. Reed; recruiting commenced about the 9th of August, and the company was filled about the 1st of September, when it went into camp at Monroeville, and was mustered into the service September 29th.

Captain—Samuel W. Reed.

First Lieutenant—Dwight Kellogg.

Second Lieutenant—Martin H. Smith.

Sergeants—Charles H. Sowers, Charles Long.

Corporals—Horace Lawrence, Tracy W. Hackett, Gratton W. Reed.

Privates—James Bennington, Lafayette Dunn, Peter Letts, Victor Mosier, Isaac Odell, Lorenzo Sweetland, Edmond Snyder, Edwin Snyder, Lambert A. Sackett, Newell B. Salisbury, Charles Tisdale, Edwin Trimmer.

COMPANY G.

Company G was recruited in the county of Erie, by Capt. Charles H. Riggs, with headquarters at Sandusky; the majority of the company were from Sandusky city and the townships adjoining, all parts of the county, however, contributing to its membership. The company was organized under some difficultics, as a company for the 101st regiment had just been raised in the same locality.—Many of the men composing this company had already seen service in company E, 8th Ohio, during the first three months of the war. Recruiting commenced August 8th, and on the 22d of the same month the company was full, and soon after went into camp at Monroeville, and was mustered into the service September 24th, as follows:

Captain—Charles H. Riggs.

First Lieutenant—Oswald H. Rosenbaum.

Second Lieutenant—Frank B. Colver.

Sergeants—Sherman A. Johnson, Geo. A. Scoby, Wesley B. Jennings, Charles M. Keyes, Martin L. Skillman.

Corporals—Miron E. Clemens, John Steele, Augustus Garrett, Frank W. Canfield, Jacob Wentz, William Gillard, William H. Metcalf, William H. Lovering.

Musicians—William Jennings, William Allen.

Teamster—George R. McConelly.

Privates—L. Buyer, Solomon Brown, Charles Brumm, Napoleon Buyer, Luther Barnard, Henry C. Barnard, George H. Bonn, Jay Bogart, Albert D. Buck, Jas. Burns, Henry Blosier, Michael Clark, John Clavin, James Cross, William H. Chamberlin, Cornelius D. Conger, Benjamin Drake, George B. Drake, Jacob Det-

lefs, Martin Dippel, Benjamin E. Deely, Edward Foster, Conrad Filmore, Joseph Groff, Joseph H. Groff, George Greenhoe, Charles Gillen, William Golden, George Golden, Jr., Bryant C. Headley, Charles Hegeney, John Harper, James Hoyt, William Hoyt, Richard Howe, Charles Hammond, John Hines, George Hines, Henry D. Johnson, Charles G. Knight, Thomas J. Keyes, Lyman Luce, Albert Lockley, Patrick Laughlin, John Lafere, Andrew J. Lewis, Frank Littlefield, Jas. P. McElwain, William Morgan, Barney McGookey, Richard Martin, Foster Neil, Thomas Neil, Theodore Ocks, Albert Ott, William Oehm, August Raab, Conrad Rhode, Delos C. Ransom, William Reed, James Reed, Samuel E. Stowe, Andrew Strauser, Albert Sruthey, John R. Savenack, Peter Sherer, George Stockley, George Shesley, Benjamin Thompson, Fred Tucker, Alfred C. Vantine, George G. Warren, Albert Walker, William P. Wheeler, Soloman Kriss, William Stahl, George Weber, John McGookey, Richard H. Timmanus, Thomas Persons, Milo H. Wager, William Kelly.

COMPANY K.

Company K was recruited mostly in the counties of Erie and Seneca. It was the last company recruited, and some difficulty was encountered in completing its organization. The company was recruited by Capt. Lewis Zimmer, of Tiffin, and was mustered into the service at Monroeville, October 16th.

Sergeant—James Healey.

Privates—George D. Elder, Michael Hyde, Benjamin Spittle, Edward Savenack.

The regiment left its camp at Monroeville, October 16, 1862, and was employed in various services in West Virginia, with occasional skirmishing but without any general engagement with the enemy, until June, 1863.

MILROY'S ORDER.

When the regiment was lying at New Creek, November, 1862, Capt. Horace Kellogg, with his company (B), was ordered by Gen. Milroy to proceed at once to St. George, Tucker county, Virginia, and assess and collect enough money from disloyal citizens to reimburse the loyal citizens of that place who had been robbed by guerrillas. Gen. Milroy's order was as follows: "If they do not pay the amount you assess them, at the designated time, you will proceed to burn their houses, seize their property, and shoot the men." As soon as the company arrived at St. George, Capt. Kellogg found out who were the disloyal subjects, and proceeded to issue circulars to them, in accordance with Milroy's orders. It is needless to say that the money was forthcoming. Five thousand dollars were collected and disbursed to the Union men who had been despoiled of their property.

We extract the following account of the battles in which the regiment was engaged:

BATTLE OF WINCHESTER—JUNE 13, 14, AND 15, 1863.

June 13th, 1863, dawned clear and bright on the Valley City, the quiet hush of morning gave little indication of the scene of carnage so soon to be enacted.—About 9 o'clock in the morning the long roll sounded to arms, and soon the regiment was in line awaiting orders. Soon they came and we were rapidly moved up the pike to Kearnstown, where, after having deployed a heavy line of skirmishers, the regiment was halted and remained until about 2 o'clock P. M., when rapidly drawing in our skirmishers, we fell back a short distance and took up a position west of the pike. While crossing the pike the enemy opened a sharp fire upon us, and several men were killed or wounded, but the regiment behaved splendidly, taking their position as coolly as veterans, though under fire, as you might say, for the first time. Volley after volley was now poured into the enemy's ranks, which must have done good

execution, as their fire very sensibly slackened. We again changed position to a slight eminence a few rods in the rear, where the regiment remained firm, receiving and returning the enemy's fire as calmly as though drawn up on dress parade until night drew her curtains about us and put an end to the carnage. Our lines were now drawn close around the city, our regiment remaining in line until long after midnight, when we were relieved and allowed a few hours for rest. In this day's fight the regiment's loss was seventy-six men in killed and wounded. The men acted grandly, receiving praise for their gallant conduct from Gen. Milroy in person.

The next morning we were ordered into the fort where we remained till evening, when we were ordered to make a sortie, but were driven back. the enemy having captured one of our outer posts, and turned their guns upon us.

Our forces now all rallied upon the main fort where the enemy charged us, but they were easily repulsed, and they did not again make the attempt.

All were now confident that our position was no longer tenable, the rebels being largely superior in numbers and rapidly concentrating more troops in our vicinity; a council of war was held, when it was decided to make the attempt to cut our way through to Harper's Ferry if possible. About 2 o'clock in the morning the movement began; the column moved out on the Martinsburg pike.—Our regiment having the advance, all went well until we had put about five miles between us and Winchester, and we were congratulating ourselves on getting out so nicely, when all at once our advance guard struck the enemy, who had marched around and got in our rear during the night.

Our regiment and the 87th Pennsylvania were rapidly got into position, and immediately charged the rebels, who were drawn up in a wood just to the right of the road, capturing their artillery, but were unable to hold them against the murderous fire now poured into our ranks, and sullenly retired for a short distance. Two other regiments were now hurried into position, when we again moved to the charge. In steady and firm line we now advanced, and, though grape and canister ploughed great lanes through our poor ranks, not a man faltered or turned back; but the gallant old regiment was leaving its track marked with its dead and its dying. Once more their guns were ours, again their deadly fire forced our now sadly weakened lines back, but only a few rods, when once more a strong line was formed and our boys stood grim and firm awaiting the next move. It will be remembered that all this fighting was done in the darkness, though the gray of morning began faintly to light up the scene as the regiment retired from this charge. The terrific picture presented in that wood we shall not soon forget; the flashes of musketry in the darkness, casting a sickly glare all around; the roar of artillery, the crashing of grape-shot through the brush; the cheers of the charging troops, and cries of the dying, left an impress that will remain vivid in our memories while time with us remains.

Not long were we held inactive; for the third time, over the same ground, did our gallant little band make their way, and though greatly weakened in numbers, with unfaltering step, and shoulder to shoulder, the dangerous distance was again traversed, but only to repeat the sickening details of the first and second charges. On retiring from this last assault, we fell slowly back out of the range of their guns, repulsed—sadly stricken, yet still undaunted, for by this time we, of course, supposed that the entire army would be on the ground and in shape for action. That we were whipped we had not the remotest idea, and when a white flag was hoisted—as we afterwards learned—by the orders of Col. Ely of the 18th Connecticut, who was left in command, all were completely taken aback, for there was not the slightest doubt but that we could have got away as easily as not; however, we had

to submit, and surrendered three hundred and one men and twenty-one commissioned officers.

Throughout these three days of bloody baptism, the men and officers behaved in the most gallant manner. In the storm of grape and canister, Col. Wilson, Lieut. Col. Hunter and Maj. Horace Kellogg, rode their horses as coolly as though it were simply a hail storm, which undoubtedly contributed greatly in keeping the regiment so firmly to the work.

In making the second charge, Major Kellogg was severely wounded, and retired soon after from the field and succeeded in making his escape into Maryland, where those of the regiment who made their escape were subsequently collected together. * * * In this engagement our loss was fifty-one men in killed and wounded, and three officers wounded, one of whom, Captain Bender of Company I, afterwards died in prison. We afterwards learned that while our regiment, together with four others, was making this desperate fight, the rest of our forces flanked the enemy and pushed right on to Harper's Ferry, leaving us to our fate. Perhaps it was for the best, but from our stand-point we failed to see the beauty of the strategy.

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After the surrender of the forces by Col. Ely, as narrated, the men of the 123d were marched into the fort at Winchester, and there confined until such time as the rebels could make it convenient to take them to their future prison.

On the afternoon of June 16th, the men were started on their long journey to Richmond, arriving at Staunton on the 22d, distant ninety miles. Here we took the cars for Richmond, arriving there on the 23d. It seemed as though the entire rebel capital had turned out to see the Yankees, and would hoot and hiss at us as we passed along. The officers took up their quarters at Hotel-de-Libby; the men were furnished accommodations on "Belle-Isle," which by the way was nothing more nor less than a large sand bank, with a few trees upon it, situated near the south bank of the James River. We were closely guarded, not even allowed the privilege of buying one of their own papers, though we managed to get one now and then from the guards. It is needless to recount our sufferings here, as no pen can do adequate justice to the subject. I will only say that the meat and soup were full of maggots, and the bread so stale and sour as to be almost unpalatable, these constituting our eatables, while the water we drank was even worse.

On the 6th of July, the majority of the men were paroled, and were taken to City Point, by rail, *via* Petersburg, and delivered to the United States authorities. Never were the Stars and Stripes more enthusiastically cheered, than when we first saw them streaming from the flag of truce boat; once on board we had plenty to eat, and soon all were in high spirits. On arriving at Annapolis—where those left in prison joined us one week later—we were furnished new clothing throughout, our old ones being full of "gray-backs," and were supplied with comfortable quarters. Very soon the boys began to scatter to their homes, where most of them were allowed to remain until they were exchanged, after which time they were ordered to report at Camp Chase. About the first of September, most of them were on hand, and soon after were sent to Martinsburg, Virginia, where the detachment of the regiment which had escaped from Winchester were located under command of Maj. H. Kellogg, who had sufficiently recovered from his wound to again take the field.

BATTLES OF NEW MARKET AND PIEDMONT, MAY 15 AND JUNE 5, 1864.

About the 26th of March, 1864, the regiment was collected together at Martinsburg, where Gen. Siegel was concentrating troops preparatory to a movement up the valley; and from the orders issued to our little army, we knew that our season of inaction was drawing to a close.—On the 29th, we broke camp at Martins-

burg and marched out to Bunker Hill, remaining there two or three days, when we proceeded to Winchester and encamped about two miles beyond the city; a portion of the regiment was sent into the city, under command of Capt. Snyder, to act as provost guard, with orders to search the town, which was done, and a large collection of old guns, swords and accoutrements were collected together and destroyed. About the first of May, our forces moved up the valley as far as Cedar Creek, where they remained until the 10th, making the final preparations for our grand raid on Lynchburg. Baggage was cut down to the minimum; each soldier was provided with an extra pair of shoes, and loaded down with rations and ammunition, we broke camp and moved leisurely on through Strasburg, Woodstock, and Mt. Jackson, to New Market, where, on the night of the 14th we struck the enemy in some force, our brigade having the advance; we had a lively little skirmish, but of short duration, the rebels soon giving way. We laid on our arms during the night, but no attack was made.

The next morning our brigade manuevred around in various directions, the artillery placed in position, and things began to look as though a battle was imminent, but for some unknown reason, the remainder of our little army was not brought up; about noon the enemy opened upon us with artillery, to which our batteries rapidly replied, and soon their lines could be seen coming across the fields, two deep, one directly behind the other, with a heavy line of skirmishers in advance, and nothing but our brigade to receive them. We were in a good position, and with the artillery on either flank, awaited their approach. Soon our cannon opened on their rapidly advancing lines, dealing death and destruction, but not checking them for an instant; on they came, sweeping like an avalanche upon our little band. We held our fire until they were almost within pistol shot, when we poured in our volleys, with terrific effect; rapidly were our well directed volleys given, doubling their first line back upon their second, that still came unfalteringly on, lapping by our little line, both on our right flank and the left, rapidly firing as they advanced until our little band could no longer withstand their overwhelming numbers, and slowly we began to retire—taking our cannon back through a cedar thicket, our pathway marked with the blood of our braves. As they appeared over the eminence we had lately occupied, they poured in upon us such a storm of shot and shell, so thick that the very air seemed alive with bullets. On passing through here on our way up the valley a month later, we examined this spot, and found scarce a tree or bush unmarked, showing that the fire at this point must have been severe indeed.

On the crest of the hill beyond another stand was made, which checked their advance for a short time, but soon we were again compelled to fall back, this time pretty badly shattered. Major Kellogg, commanding the regiment, had his horse shot from under him and received quite a severe wound himself. He, however, was supplied with another horse by the officer commanding a battery near at hand, and again rallied his command, which fell back in good order. By this time we had reached our reserves on Rood's Hill, about three miles from where the attack commenced, which checked the enemy's advance until night put an end to the conflict.

In this engagement the regiment's loss was sixty-three in killed and wounded, and twenty-six missing; the missing being all taken prisoners, many of whom were afterwards slowly tortured to death in prison. The army was now drawn back to Cedar Creek, where we arrived on the 17th. Gen. Siegel had been relieved and Gen. Hunter placed in command.

RAID ON LYNCHBURG, JUNE 17 TO 29, 1874.

The Lynchburg Raid was very severe on our regiment, and many were sick and

worn out. Our rations were exhausted before we were fully started, and a large portion of the country through which we passed being very sparsely settled, we found great difficulty in procuring food, as the country had nothing in it to eat either for man or beast. For four days the regiment marched day and night, not halting over two hours at any one time. For nine days we had nothing to eat but fresh beef and mutton, and a very little coffee. With all this the heat was intense, the roads very dusty, and the men became so completely exhausted, that frequently when the command halted, they would drop down just where they stood, and to get them started again it was necessary to arouse every man, and not only arouse him, but get him on his feet, and even then they could often be seen in the ranks, marching along, sound asleep. Had there been anything in the country to subsist upon, we might have taken it leisurely, but as it was, it was simply a march for rations, and this fact the men all understood, for it was so stated in a general order from Army Headquarters, and read to each regiment, hence there was little or no grumbling at the severity of our marching.

As the result of this raid—we marched five hundred miles since leaving Martinsburg, destroying a large amount of property, captured fifteen hundred prisoners, over a thousand head of cattle, a large number of sheep, besides living—if it could be called living—off the country through which we passed. Several hundred negroes came through with us, many of them remaining with the various regiments as servants. On the other hand, we lost about one thousand horses and mules that gave out, and nearly one hundred wagons, that we were compelled to destroy, and lost quite a number of men, who were "played out," and undoubtedly fell into the hands of the enemy. The men's shoes were giving out some partially, and occasionally one would be seen entirely barefoot, trudging along with the rest, for it was sure capture to straggle, and the men knew it. The main object of the raid, which was doubtless to threaten Lynchburg, and thus cause Lee to weaken his forces in front of Richmond, by sending reinforcements to Lynchburg, was fully obtained.

BATTLES OF SNICKER'S FERRY AND MARTINSBURG, JULY 18–24 AND 25, 1864.

Early on Monday, July 18th, our division moved down to Snicker's Ferry, where the enemy was posted in force on the other side of the river. Our brigade was immediately pushed forward, plunging into the water, which was waist deep, we crossed over, driving the rebels before us, and took a position on the west bank of the famed Shenandoah. The rest of the division soon joined us, and our line of battle was rapidly formed. We had thrown out a heavy line of skirmishers as soon as the crossing was effected, Colonel Wilson taking charge of them in person, mounted on his black charger; he rode from one end of the line to the other, getting it firmly established, and, though the air was thick with bullets, escaped unharmed.

Here occurred one of those unfortunate fights in which it was the fortune of our forces so often to participate during the war. Our lines were formed in something of a circle on the top of a knoll extending along the river, where, from the manuevering of the enemy, we could see that they were in strong force. Soon they came charging down upon us, but our line stood firm as a rock, and sent them whirling back into the woods, where they re-formed their broken line, and with reinforcements came again to the attack, shaking their banners and yelling like madmen, they came, but only to recoil, broken and shattered before our deadly volleys. Once again did they charge our unshaken line, but to be hurled back as before.

Night was now rapidly coming on, and we were anxiously looking for the balance of our troops to cross the river, but they did not come, and after twice getting orders, we began slowly to recross the river.

Our regiment and the 34th Massachusetts—than which there was no braver nor more gallant regiment in the service—were left to protect the rear, and of course were the last to effect the crossing, in doing which many lives were lost, quite a number of men in the regiment being either shot in the river or drowned in its rushing waters.

Lieut. Willoughby, of Company F, was wounded, and Lieut. Williams, of Company B, was killed, while fording the river—a noble hearted fellow, mourned by all who knew him.

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Sergeant Hart, our color bearer, was shot in the arm while going down the bank. Adjutant McCracken standing near by, relieved him of the flag and started across the river, but getting into deep water, was compelled to let it go in the rushing waters, in order to save himself. The flag, however, was recovered soon after, it having lodged in a fallen tree just below, and after being borne through several other engagements, was sent to Columbus, where, a mere shred, it now hangs in the Arm and Trophy Department of the State.

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On the 19th, the 6th and 19th corps moved off in the direction of Washington, and we heard that they had got up another scare at the capital. The next day after the departure of these troops, we again crossed the river higher up, at the regular ford, in a drenching rain storm; we waded the river, which, at this point, was about two feet deep, and it was quite laughable to see some of the men attempt to keep dry. We went into camp just on the other side, remaining there until the next day, when we pushed on to Winchester.

On the 24th of July, about noon, signs of the enemy's approach became evident, and our forces were soon in position, and at 2 o'clock a fierce battle was once more raging around the valley city. For several hours the field was fiercely contested, when, being overpowered on all sides, our troops were compelled to fall back, saving all our trains, and taking with us the most of our wounded. It will be remembered that we were opposed by the same army that we measured strength with over the same ground one month later, after being reinforced by the 6th and 19th corps, with Gen. Sheridan commanding. In this engagement the gallant Gen. Mulligan fell, fighting at the head of his division, just as the day was lost.

No shoes nor clothing had been issued to our men since the Hunter raid, and many of our boys were still barefoot;—for such of them, that retreat was simply terrible. Many of them, unable to walk upon their blood-clotted feet, were compelled to fall out and were taken prisoners, most of whom died afterwards from cruel treatment in Andersonville. We made a stand at Bunker Hill, holding the enemy in check until early next morning, then fell back to Martinsburg, skirmishing all the way. We held the town until all the military stores at this point, together with our sick and wounded, had been put into cars and started for Cumberland, on the Baltimore & Ohio R. R.; when with our train we fell back to Williamsport, fording the Potomac. On the morning of the 26th, we pushed on thro' Sharpsburg, thence to Pleasant Valley, on to Harper's Ferry, where we again crossed the Potomac, and went into camp on the 28th at Hall Town, four miles distant.

Thus in sixteen days had we, in our worn-out condition, many of the men without shoes or proper clothing, fought in two severe engagements and marched one hundred and ninety miles. Here we made out clothing and pay-rolls, and on July 30th, while issuing clothing to the men, received orders to march to the defence of the Capital, and immediately started back into Maryland. None who were on that march will soon forget the intense heat of that July day; it is said that over one hundred of the army died from sunstroke, and many more were seriously affected. After marching around through Maryland for four or five days,

it was discovered that the "Washington scare" had been over-estimated, and on the 5th of August we went into camp at Monocacy, where our division was ordered out at sundown to witness the execution of a deserter from the 23d O. V. I., being the first and only time during the war that our regiment was called upon to witness such a scene.

BATTLES OF BERRYVILLE, FISHER'S HILL AND OPEQUAN, SEPT. 3, 19 and 22, 1864.

* * * Our command reached Berryville, arriving about noon. Pickets were sent out, and being attacked, our division was sent forward to their support, in doing which, our regiment, or six companies of it, the others being on picket, became heavily engaged with a brigade of rebels, whom we run into in a cornfield almost before we were aware of their presence. We gave them three or four volleys, when they came charging down upon us and we were forced to retire, losing four killed and fifteen wounded. As soon as we reached our reserves, our line was halted and we laid there on our arms all night, expecting the fight would be renewed in the morning. It rained most of the night, and was quite cold; taking it all in all, we had a pretty rough night of it. Our corps was assigned its position on the line in the morning and commenced building "breast-works," and right here we might say that these, like all the others we built during the war, were never fired over, it always being our privilege to be the attacking party.—We remained here for some time, working on the fortifications and doing picket duty. On the 7th of September, Lieut. Col. Kellogg came up and took command of the regiment, Capt. Chamberlin having been in command since August 17th.

The Colonel had been sick in hospital, and had quite an adventure while on his way from the Ferry to the regiment, in company with a surgeon in charge of an ambulance train, and without escort. All went well until within seven or eight miles of the army, when it now being about 5 o'clock P. M., they were suddenly pounced upon in front and rear by a gang of bushwhackers, under command of the redoubtable Mosby; fortunately, the Colonel and Surgeon were pretty well ahead of the train, and the main body of the rebels had come onto the road behind them, so putting spur to their horses, they dashed down the road, brushing the rebs in their immediate pathway aside, and away up the pike at a break-neck speed they went, when in about twenty minutes, reaching a cavalry outpost, Col. Kellogg persuaded the Sergeant in charge, with about twenty men, to go back with him and recapture the train. Flying over the ground, they were soon upon them, and going in with a yell, they scattered the "Johnnies" in every direction, recovering the entire train before the rebels could get it turned around and in shape to get away, thus saving to the government many thousands of dollars, and to the army a much needed train of ambulances. Had Col. Kellogg waited until a strong force of cavalry could have been secured, as most officers would have done, it would have been too late, and Mosby, with his plunder, well out of reach in the mountains.

* * * * * *

Captain Shawhan joined the regiment on the 12th, and on the 15th Col. Kellogg receiving a "sick leave," went to his home, the command of the regiment again devolving upon Capt. Chamberlin.

September 16th, our army was visited by Gen. Grant, in order to confer in person with Gen. Sheridan. The General saw that all Gen. Sheridan wanted was permission to strike—it was given in two words—"go in"—and we went.

The army was in motion before daylight on Monday the 19th, and before night closed upon us, the famous battle of "Opequan" was fought and won. We took the road in the direction of Winchester, the 6th and 19th corps having the advance. Firing commenced as soon as we were fairly started, and increased in volume as we advanced, to that roar

which indicates the heavy engagement.—We reached the Perryville pike where it crosses the Opequan Creek, about 10 o'clock A. M., where we were held in reserve until about 2 o'clock P. M., when we were ordered up. We crossed the creek, and made our way along a narrow, woody gorge up to the front.

The road was crowded with artillery, ammunition wagons and ambulances, also with prisoners and wounded men moving to the rear; in fact, it was so choked up that it was with difficulty we picked our way through the debris.

We at length reached a ravine, in front of which was a narrow strip of woods, and along its southern edge a division of the 19th corps was posted, seemingly heavily engaged. We were rapidly massed in column by brigade, with ours in front, and immediately moved forward, relieving this portion of the 19th corps, and as soon as they were massed and ready, the bugle sounded the advance, and we moved forward on the double-quick. Now commenced one of the most exciting charges ever participated in by a large army; for over two miles we drove them, over stone fences, up hills and down ravines, until about 4 o'clock P. M., when, our cavalry getting on their flank, they, no longer making any stand, went flying down the valley with Averill's and Merritt's gallant riders in hot pursuit. The 123d was the first regiment over the fortifications and into the city of Winchester. We went into the fight with six officers and one hundred and eighty-two men, losing seven men killed and three officers—Capt. Shawhan, Lieutenants Snyder and Johnson—and forty-two men wounded, receiving special praise from Gen. Thoburn, for our gallant conduct.

In this truly great battle, we captured nearly three thousand prisoners, five guns and nine battle-flags. Gen. Sheridan's dispatch announcing the victory, was, "We have just sent them whirling thro' Winchester, and we are after them tomorrow. The army behaved splendidly."

The next day we moved up the valley to Strasburg, where, on the hills beyond, the rebel army, in a naturally strong position, had fortified themselves, determined again to try the issue of battle.

We were manuevered around some until the morning of the 22d, when the two divisions of our corps were moved back about three miles, where, getting under cover, we changed our direction to the left, up the side of the mountain, and then silently stole towards the rebel lines. We crept along the mountain until three o'clock P. M., when getting squarely on their flank, our lines were formed for the charge, but while doing it we were discovered by the enemy, who immediately opened on us with shot and shell; but it was too late, the order was at once issued, "Double-quick, charge!" and we were upon them before they could make any preparations to receive us, capturing their artillery, and turning their left completely; we went sweeping down their breastworks like the wind, every man yelling at the top of his voice; at the same time that we charged them on their left, the 6th and 19th corps attacked them in front. Routed at every point, they were soon in wild retreat, the ground being literally strewn with arms and accoutrements.—The cavalry kept up the pursuit throughout the night, keeping the fleeing army on the jump for twenty-five miles.

The victory was complete — eleven hundred prisoners and sixteen pieces of artillery falling into our hands, and accomplished with but very little loss to us —our regiment losing seven wounded.

BATTLE OF CEDAR CREEK, OCT. 19, 1864.

We reached Cedar Creek on the 11th of October, 1864, and went into camp on the east side, taking our position on the left of the 19th corps, and here we held our first election, in accordance with the law allowing soldiers in the field to vote.

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On the 13th, our entire regiment went on picket, a portion of the line being across the creek, when to the surprise of every one the enemy opened fire from a masked battery, and shelled our camp

for about two hours, when the 1st and 3d brigades of our division were sent out to look into the matter. They soon found the rebels in strong force, when orders were sent for the brigades to return, but the Adjutant General, after having delivered the order to the 3d brigade, had his horse shot under him, and failing to give the order to our brigade, they kept on advancing, until they were heavily engaged, and very soon were forced back, being overpowered by a greatly superior force. Our brigade lost heavily, Colonel Wells, commanding, and his Adjutant General were killed and left on the field. Our picket-line was now changed to a skirmish-line, being reinforced by two companies from the 116th O. V. I. We held our position firmly, and about midnight advanced half a mile, and found that the rebels had fallen back. We laid here several days, doing picket and forage duty, receiving some reinforcements by men returning from hospitals.

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At half past 4 on the morning of October 19th, the regiment was routed out by a straggling picket fire in our front; the word was passed along that the enemy were advancing, and the men quietly fell into line along the breast-work. The other brigades, however, failed to observe the warning, or were too slow in "falling in." The rebels easily turned the right of our corps, getting over the works with little or no opposition, many of the men being still asleep in their tents.

Some resistance, however, was made by our brigade, the only one in the division not surprised; we fell slowly back, the broken ranks of the other brigades rallying upon our line; we soon came upon the 19th corps, that by this time had got into line, and, meeting their first division, we made a good stand, giving the enemy several well directed volleys, that checked their advance, but soon being flanked on the left, we were compelled again to give way; here our division commander, Gen. Thoburn, and his Adjutant General, were killed. A running fight was now kept up for about four miles, when, meeting the 6th corps drawn up in line, with their artillery in position, the retreat was checked. The 19th corps took position on their left, our corps joining theirs, with a good body of cavalry on our left. Up to this hour it had been the darkest day of our army life; flushed with victory in two great battles within a month, supposing ourselves invincible against any thing in the valley, thus to be driven almost in a rout from our works, was a little too much for our philosophy. But now, retreat was no longer thought of;—Gen. Wright, of the 6th corps, had our lines well established, and the enemy decidedly checked, when Gen. Sheridan arrived on the field, he having ridden from Winchester, "twenty miles away," since the battle commenced. New life seemed at once to animate the whole army. Some slight changes were made in the line, particularly with the cavalry—when the order was given, "Forward along the line," and away we went, with a heavy line of skirmishers armed with repeating rifles, supported by strong lines of infantry, against whose steady and determined advance there was no resistance. In less than an hour the rebel horde was flying back over the ground they had so lately traversed flushed with success. The cavalry now swooped down from their positions, on the right and on the left, and as the enemy's lines were turned, and in wild retreat, the scene that ensued along that valley pike beggars description.

It was a grand sight to see that army, lately shattered and stricken nigh unto annihilation, thus re-form their columns and boldly move out to the charge; in all the battles of the great rebellion, no parallel was presented. Back through our camps, which they had swept in the morning, the beaten rebels ran, throwing away their guns and knapsacks, and every thing that in any way impeded their headlong flight.

The cavalry kept up the pursuit for sixteen miles, recapturing all of our trains, and capturing the greater portion of the enemy's.

We stacked our muskets behind the works occupied in the morning, and slept that night, as we had fought that day, without food.

There is scarce a doubt that if we could have had two hours more of daylight, the rebel army would have been totally annihilated; as it was we captured forty-nine pieces of artillery, besides retaking the ones taken from us in the morning, and over two thousand prisoners. Our loss was very heavy, being over six thousand in killed and wounded; that of the enemy being much less. The loss in our regiment was one killed, fifteen wounded and thirteen missing.

BATTLES OF PETERSBURG, HATCHER'S RUN AND FARMVILLE, MARCH 30, AND APRIL 2 AND 6, 1865.

Captains Randolph, Rosenbaum and Robbins, and Lieutenants Davis, Acker and Boyce, joined the regiment, they having made their escape from rebel prisons during the fall and winter, this being the first we had seen of them since the disastrous fight at Winchester, June 15, 1863.

Some time in March we received a new stand of colors, our old ones being completely in ribbons, and Major Chamberlin going home on a leave of absence, took them with him to Ohio, and presented them to the Governor for safe keeping.

About the middle of March everything began to assume a busy air throughout the army, and it was evident that military movements would soon begin.

On the 25th, our division received orders to be ready to move at an hour's notice, and on the night of the 27th the orders came, and very shortly we were on the way, crossing the James River under cover of the darkness. We then struck off to the rear of our works for a short distance, and then away towards our left. All night long through that dense woods and pitchy darkness we slowly picked our way. The road was very muddy, and the march a tiresome one. We halted about 4 o'clock in the morning for a short rest. Snatching a hasty breakfast at 8 o'clock, we were again on the road, pushing on all day towards the left. We now became aware that Sheridan was pressing the enemy's right, and that we were probably on the way to reinforce him.

On the morning of the 29th we reached the position assigned us in the vicinity of Hatcher's Run, and remained quietly behind the works until the next day.

Early in the morning we moved out beyond the entrenchments, and immediately the crack of musketry announced that skirmishing had begun, but we steadily pressed the enemy back through the tangled woods and across creeks and gullies. About noon the rain commenced falling in torrents, making our advance very tedious.

We stopped at night, and at once commenced fortifying our position. All next day the rain continued to pour, making it impossible for us to move our artillery, and we were compelled to remain idle.—Early on the 31st, our division moved out to the attack; the 123d regiment being on the skirmish line, were immediately under fire, and drove the enemy steadily back until within five hundred yards of their entrenched position on Hatcher's Run. Just before a halt was ordered, the regiment made a gallant charge, driving the rebels from a point of timber, capturing some prisoners and gaining a very desirable position, and maintained it against a heavy cannonade and musketry fire throughout the day.—As soon as night came on, we set to work building breast-works, using rails and loose stones, and digging dirt with our bayonets, and were very soon strongly entrenched. We remained there all night, getting very little, if any, sleep.—Firing commenced early in the morning, and was kept up steadily through the day, no change, however, being made in our position. Now by all reason of fairness we certainly should have been relieved. We had been on severe duty for two days, sending many of our dead and wounded back to the rear, amply attesting the work we had done. We had cooked

nothing to eat during the time, though the boys in the rear had sent us out hot coffee on several occasions. But General Turner sent a special request to Colonel Kellogg, who had gallantly and in person commanded the line, asking that he remain with his regiment on the line for another night. Of course his request was complied with.

At daybreak the grand movement was made along the whole line, that gave us Petersburg, and sent the rebels broken and shattered from their last stronghold in Virginia.

The advance was begun on our right, and as the cheers of our troops announced their success, Col. Kellogg became very anxious to lead his regiment against the works in our front. Twice he sent for permission before it came.

The regiment was all ready, and at the word, leaped over their rail pens and away for the enemy's works, and without a stop, over their defences, capturing several hundred prisoners, two cannon and two battle-flags. One of these battle-flags is still in possession of Col. Kellogg, at Norwalk, and the other is deposited with our own colors at the Capital.

After our division had forced the enemy's lines at Hatcher's Run, we joined our corps, and pressing on after the 6th corps, swerved to the right and closed in on the enemy around Petersburg. Just at night our division was selected by Gen. Gibbon to carry by storm two large forts on the south side of the city.

We were soon formed in column by brigade, with our brigade in front. Co. D., now the brigade sharpshooters, were deployed in front. At the order, our three brigades sprang forward to the charge at a right shoulder shift; the sharpshooters opened a rapid fire that was so well directed that the guns of the enemy were used with very poor effect.—Without a stop, the first fort was reached, and after ten or fifteen minutes of desperate resistance, was ours. The second one then fell with scarce a struggle.

The roar of battle was now heard along the whole line, the enemy fighting bravely behind their works; but at the close of that Sabbath evening we knew that the strength of the Rebellion was broken.

During the night, Petersburg and Richmond were evacuated, and the rebel army in rapid retreat towards Danville. Early in the morning we were in pursuit, taking the road towards Burkesville, along the South Side road, General Ord being in command of our portion of the army.—We marched to Burkesville, arriving there at 11 o'clock on the night of the 5th, being square on Lee's flank, who was to the north of us and on the road toward Farmville. The army was completely jaded, having been on the march since early morning, and rest was imperatively demanded. The General, however, called for two picked regiments to go out and destroy the bridges that cross the Appomattox, near Farmville, and thus cut off the enemy's retreat in that direction.—The 123d Ohio and 54th Pennsylvania were selected, and with a squadron of the 4th Massachusetts cavalry, the whole under command of Gen. Theodore Read, at once started. They met the head of Lee's army near the point designated, and at once bravely attacked them.

Col. Kellogg was in command of the infantry, Gen. Read being away with the cavalry on a reconnoissance.

Deploying a heavy line of skirmishers, we stubbornly maintained our position, though against a largely superior force. After having repulsed them several times, Gen. Read, knowing we could not long withstand their rapidly increasing force, resolved to charge with his little band of cavalry, and endeavor to cut his way through to the main army. Gallantly that squadron rode to the assault, many of them destined never again to hear the bugle's call. The brave Read was killed and eleven officers of his staff and cavalry killed or wounded.

None of them succeeded in getting through, nor did any of them return to us. Still we held our ground, and as the rebels marched out beyond our flanks, more men were deployed, until finally both regiments were a mere skirmish line.

For several hours this unequal contest was waged, till at last the boys began to get out of ammunition, and very soon that cry became general.

Col. Kellogg, who had been hoping all along that the army would come to his rescue, now saw there was no use longer to resist, and ordered the line to fall back slowly and in as good order as possible, thinking that some of the command, at least, might escape through the woods.—But as soon as they saw our line breaking back, they swooped down upon us in great force, and in a few moments both regiments were prisoners. We lost a good many men in this engagement. Captain Randolph was shot through the breast by a cavalryman, after having surrendered.

This gallant little fight of these two regiments received honorable mention by Gen. Grant, in his report of the war.—He says that their brave and stubborn resistance at this point checked Lee's retreat long enough to enable Gen. Ord to get up with his main force, compelling Lee to intrench himself, thus causing great delay in the enemy's movements.

The regiment, or so many of them as did not make their escape after their capture, remained prisoners until Lee's surrender at Appomattox Court House—a period of two days—but time enough for the rebels to "go through" our boys, stripping them of everything valuable, taking even their hats and shoes. In striking contrast to the treatment they received at our hands after their surrender, when scarcely a rebel was allowed to start on his homeward tramp without a well filled haversack and canteen.

The regiment at once came back to the division, but in the treaty agreed upon, being counted as paroled prisoners, were ordered to report at Parole Camp, Annapolis, as such.

The rebel army of Northern Virginia had surrendered. And on that quiet Sabbath evening, as the lightning flashed the intelligence from city to hamlet, the church bells rang out the glad tidings over the free North, and the Nation thanked the God of battles that the end for which we had suffered and struggled so long had come.

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During our three years of service, the regiment had marched two thousand one hundred and eighty-four miles, had traveled by rail one thousand five hundred and thirty-one miles, and by boat one thousand and seventeen miles, making a grand total of five thousand seven hundred and thirty-two miles.

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The following is the list of officers from our regiment who were captured at Winchester and confined in Libby: Col. W. T. Wilson, Lt. Col. H. B. Hunter, Adjt. Blair, Capts. Riggs, Caldwell, Robbins, Rosenbaum, Randolph, Bender and Chamberlin. Lieuts. Davis, Smith, Bevington, Schuyler, Pumphrey, Breckenridge, Sowers, Colver, Williams, Acker, and Boyce, making twenty-one in all.—The enlisted men were taken to Belle Isle, confined there about three weeks, when they were paroled and sent North.

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The following correspondence will explain itself:

CAMP OF THE 123D O. V. I.,
NEW MARKET HEIGHTS, VIRGINIA,
March 11, 1865.

Sir:—At the request of the commanding officer of the regiment, I have the pleasure of presenting through you to the State of Ohio, the remnants of the colors carried by the 123d Regiment of Ohio Volunteer Infantry, during last summer's campaign in the Shenandoah Valley, Va. They were borne through the following engagements in Virginia: Newmarket, May 15th, 1864; Piedmont, June 5th; Lynchburg, June 18th; Snicker's Ferry, July 18th; Winchester, July 24th;—Martinsburg, July 25th; Berryville, September 3d; Winchester, September 10th; Fisher's Hill, September 22d;—Cedar Creek, October 19th. Hoping that you will give them a place in the Arm and Trophy Department of the State, I am with great respect, your obedient servant, J. W. CHAMBERLIN,

Capt. A Co., 123d O. V. I.

The foregoing letter was addressed to Gov. Brough, to which he responded as follows:

THE STATE OF OHIO,
(Executive Dep't,)
March 24th, 1865.

Maj. J. W. Chamberlin, 123d O. V. I.:

SIR—Your favor of the 15th instant has been handed me, accompanied by "what remains of the colors of the 123d Regiment." The custody of these tattered flags is thankfully accepted on the part of the State, and they will be appropriately placed among other and similar mementoes of the patriotism and courage of our soldiers in this great struggle to sustain the Government and unity of the country.

The 123d Regiment presents a record highly honorable to its officers and men, and ennobling to the State. These records have given to our State the high rank she now occupies in the annals of the war; and they constitute one of the brightest pages in the history of this wicked Rebellion. Thanking you for the presentation made by the regiment,

I am very truly yours,
JOHN BROUGH.

The following shows the exact condition of the regiment as exhibited by the muster-out at Columbus, June 12th and 13th, 1865:

Total number mustered out,	. .	641
" "	discharged, ...	163
" "	transferred, . . .	48
" "	killed in action, . .	45
" "	died of wounds or dis.,	131
" "	of deserters, . . .	44
Total,	. . . . .	1072

PERSONAL INCIDENTS.

While the regiment was lying at Huttonville, Lieutenant Randolph, afterwards promoted to Captain for gallant conduct, was sent out forty miles to call in a command that was on the road towards Staunton. Procuring a good horse, he started alone, armed only with a sabre and revolver, and carried the order thro' the enemy's country and returned safely to his command. We were all glad to see him back, for it was an undertaking fraught with dangers at every turn—besides, if taken prisoner, the chances of being treated as a spy stared him in the face.

In the spring of 1864, the most of our officers who were then in prison were changed to various prisons throughout the South, some of them making the entire circuit of Libby, Raleigh, Macon, Savannah, Charleston and Columbia.

Two officers escaped by means of the "Streight tunnel," and Col. Wilson, Lieut. Col. Hunter, Capt. Chamberlin, and two or three others, were exchanged and sent North, and, soon after, joined the regiment; while the greater portion of the remainder made their escape from some of the above named prisons at different times. All of them, in fact, save Lieut. M. H. Smith, who was released by Gen. Sherman, on his celebrated march to the sea, and Captains Riggs and Bender, who died there from cruel treatment.

Captain Randolph escaped from Columbia, South Carolina, during the summer of 1864, by floating down the Santee river on a flat-boat, with several others, and, after a voyage of nearly one month, reaching our fleet blockading its mouth. On the trip they passed under several railroad bridges guarded by soldiers, the sentinels being in plain sight. Their plan was to float down the river at night, using long "sweeps" to force the boat through the water. As soon as daylight came, they would lay by for the day, secreting their boat as best they could among willows, or brush of some description. As a matter of course, they foraged for their rations, or had colored men do it for them. Sweet potatoes were in abundance; and, with young chickens, or a pig from a neighboring farmyard, a very fair meal could be gotten up.

On the 3d of November, Lieutenants Colver and Boyce, observing that the

guards were very slack in watching the prisoners who were permitted to go to a wood near by for fuel, thought that the time had come to attempt their escape; so they, in company with another officer, resolved to try it. Getting all ready, they walked out, as though they had given their parole, and kept right on to the woods, and, as soon as they were under cover, secreted themselves until after dark, when, taking the North Star as their guide, they struck out for East Tennessee, distant about four hundred miles. After having traveled six days, they suddenly came upon some rebel cavalry, and while the other two were parleying with them, Lieut. Colver made off through the woods and escaped. He then had three hundred miles to travel alone, but, by the never-failing aid of the negro, he, after traveling thirty days—or rather nights — reached our lines at Charleston, East Tennessee, and was soon at home in Ohio.

November 26th, 1864, Capt. Rosenbaum and Lieut. T. W. Boyce made their escape from Columbia in the same manner that Lieut. Boyce did the time he started out with Lieut. Colver, and their journeyings were of a similar character. Lieut. Boyce, who had been over the ground part of the way once before, knew about the direction to take. They made East Tennessee their objective point. It was in the dead of winter, and the ground was covered with sleet and snow for the most of the way, making very bad walking, besides not contributing greatly to the comfort of sleeping out of doors. However, after many narrow escapes and almost superhuman exertions, they arrived in our lines in safety—though pretty nearly worn out—on the 26th of December, having been just one month on the trip.

LIST OF CASUALTIES.

The following is a record of the Firelands officers and soldiers in the 123d Regiment, who were killed or wounded, or who died from sickness while in the service:

FIELD AND STAFF.

Horace Kellogg, Lieutenant Colonel, wounded in the foot, at Winchester, June 16, 1863.

COMPANY B.

Caleb D. Williams, First Lieutenant, killed in action at Snicker's Ferry, July 18, 1864.

Elijah S. Conger, Leonard Keller, H. C. Stults, killed in action at Winchester, June 13, 1863.

Bower W. Schnebly, killed in action at Snicker's Ferry, July 18, 1864.

Benj. H. Williams, killed in action at Winchester, June 15, 1863.

J. F. Randolph, Jr., Captain, wounded in action at Farmville, April 6, 1865.

George J. Frith, First Sergeant, died from wounds received at Winchester, June 15, 1863.

Ira D. Wells, Sergeant, died from wounds received at Hatcher's Run, March 31, 1865.

George Buskirk, Josiah R. Fisher, Corporals, wounded in action at Winchester, June 13, 1863.

Abisha W. Walter, Corporal, died from wounds received at Winchester, June 13, 1863.

Martin Stockmaster, William Slater, wounded in action at Hatcher's Run, March 31, 1865.

Charles Andrews, wounded in action at Hatcher's Run, April 1, 1865.

John Hastings, wounded in action at Hatcher's Run, April 2, 1865.

Louis Rutherford, wounded in action at Snicker's Ferry, July 18, 1864.

Irving Cole, wounded in right arm at Winchester, June 13, 1863, and had arm amputated afterwards.

Richard Evans, died from wounds received at Winchester, June 13, 1863.

Benjamin Holcomb, died from wounds received at Winchester, June 15, 1863.

Albert Nye, wounded at Winchester, June 15, 1863.

COMPANY C.

Orry Decker, killed in action at Winchester, June 13, 1863.

Silas Simpson, fell from box car on B. & O. Railroad, and instantly killed, December 19, 1864.

Jacob Carson, wounded at Newmarket, May 15, 1864.

Alonzo Lyn, died from wounds received at Winchester, June 15, 1863.

COMPANY E.

Warren Cunningham, wounded at Hatcher's Run, March 31, 1865.

Lorenzo Sweetland, wounded September 15, 1863.

Newell B. Salisbury, Sergeant, died from a wound received in the left leg at Berryville, September 3, 1864.

Peter Letts, wounded in the shoulder at Berryville, September 3, 1864.

COMPANY G.

William Gillard, Corporal, killed in action at Winchester, June 18, 1863.

Theodore Ocks, killed in action at Hatcher's Run, March 31, 1865.

Albert Ott, killed in action at Snicker's Ferry, July 18, 1864.

Richard Martin, killed in action at Winchester, June 15, 1863.

Sherman A. Johnson, Second Lieutenant, wounded in left breast at Winchester, September 19, 1864.

Myron E. Clemens, Sergeant, wounded in the head and shoulder at Hatcher's Run, March 31, 1865.

Richard H. Timanus, Corporal, wounded in action at Cedar Creek, October 19, 1864.

William P. Wheeler, Corporal, wounded in the neck at Winchester, September 19, 1864.

Luther Barnard, wounded in hip at Winchester, September 19, 1864.

William Kelly, wounded in foot at Winchester, September 19, 1864.

Milo H. Wager, wounded in action at Hatcher's Run, March 31, 1865.

Alfred C. Vantine, Corporal, wounded in arm at Fisher's Hill, September 22, 1864.

Charles Brumm, wounded in action at Newmarket, May 15, 1864.

Conrad Rhoda, wounded in action at Winchester, June 13, 1863.

Jacob Detlefs, died from wounds received at Hatcher's Run, March 31, 1865.

Henry D. Johnson, died from wounds received at Winchester, June 15, 1863.

James Reed, died from wounds received at Newmarket, May 15, 1864.

George Stokely, wounded in arm at Lynchburg, June 18, 1864.

Foster Neill, wounded in hand at Berryville, September 3, 1864.

A. C. Garret, Color Sergeant, wounded in foot at Winchester, September 19, '64.

Henry C. Bernard, wounded in neck at Winchester, September 19, 1864.

George B. Drake, Corporal, wounded in hip at Newmarket, May 15, 1864.

Charles G. Knight, wounded in hand at Winchester, June 13, 1863.

William H. Lovering, wounded in leg near Strasburg, October, 1864.

William Morgan, wounded in action at Winchester, June 15, 1863.

George Shesley, wounded in action at Winchester, June 14, 1863.

Charles Brumm, wounded in action at Winchester, June 15, 1863.

Joseph Morrow, wounded in action at Winchester, June 15, 1863.

Richard Howe, wounded in action at Opequan, September 19, 1864.

POETRY.

OVER THE RIVER.

The authoress of this exquisite poem, Mrs. A. C. Wakefield, died at Winchendon, Mass., in 1870, at the age of 33 years. The Springfield Republican says of her:—"Mrs. Wakefield was better known to the readers of the Republican by her maiden name of Nancy A. W. Priest, who, ten or twelve years ago, was a frequent contributor of poetry to our columns, and was the author of that beautiful and touching poem, 'Over the River,' which was copied into nearly every paper in the country, and has been frequently published since. Though many of the other productions of Mrs. Wakefield's pen possessed much excellence, 'Over the River' had quite an exceptional merit, and seems to have been produced in an hour of inspiration that was never repeated. Looking back over our files we see that the poem was first printed in August, 1857, when Miss Priest was 20 years old, and a resident of Hinsdale, New Hampshire; and though she has never produced anything so good since, it is not too much to say that 'Over the River' alone is sufficient to give her an enduring name in the annals of American literature. Mrs. Wakefield leaves a husband and two little children to mourn her loss, and thousands of persons in all parts of the country will hear of her death almost with the sense of personal bereavement. Would that we could know her thoughts on the other side of that river of which she wrote thirteen years ago, and whether or not she has met and known those of whom she then said:

—Somewhere, I know, on the unseen shore,
They watch, and beckon, and wait for me.

We cannot pay Mrs. Wakefield's memory a greater tribute, or do our readers a greater favor, we are sure, than to republish here 'Over the River' entire."

Over the river they beckon to me,
Loved ones who 've crossed to the further side;
The gleam of their snowy robes I see,
But their voices are lost in the dashing tide.
There 's one with ringlets of sunny gold,
And eyes the reflection of heaven's own blue;
He crossed in the twilight, gray and cold,
And the pale mist hid him from mortal view.
We saw not the angels who met him there,
The gates of the city we could not see,
Over the river—over the river—
My brother stands waiting to welcome me.

Over the river the boatman pale
Carried another, the household pet;

Her brown curls waved in the gentle gale—
Darling Minnie! I see her yet.
She crossed on her bosom her dimpled hands,
And fearlessly entered the phantom bark,
We felt it glide from the silver sands,
And all our sunshine grew strangely dark.
We know she is safe on the further side,
Where all the ransomed and angels be;
Over the river—the mystic river—
My childhood's idol is waiting for me.

For none return from those quiet shores
Who cross with the boatman cold and pale—
We hear the dip of the golden oars,
And catch a gleam of the snowy sail;
And lo! they have passed from our yearning hearts,
Who cross the stream and are gone for aye.
We may not sunder the veil apart,
That hides from our vision the gates of day;
We only know that their barks no more
May sail with us over life's stormy sea;
Yet somewhere, I know, on the unseen shore,
They watch, and beckon, and wait for me.

And I sit and think when the sunset's gold
Is flushing river and hill and shore,
I shall one day stand by the water cold,
And list for the sound of the boatman's oar;
I shall watch for a gleam of the flapping sail,
I shall hear the boat as it gains the strand,
I shall pass from sight with the boatman pale,
To the better shore of the spirit land;
I shall know the loved who have gone before,
And joyfully sweet will the meeting be,
When over the river—the peaceful river—
The angel of death shall carry me.

DEATH OF A PIONEER MOTHER.

BY W. H. C. HOSMER.

I.

One of the stately matrons that gave to home delight,
And with her genial company the darkest day made bright,
Has vanished from the scenes she cheered, the friends she loved so well,
And never for a kinder heart was knolled a sadder knell.

The Church will miss her where in prayer she had so often knelt,
The poor that she relieved whose souls the keenest sorrow felt,
When tearfully, from door to door, were borne the tidings dread,
"The staff on which we leaned is gone, our friend in need is dead!"

II.

Endowed with rarest mental gifts, her counsel oft was sought,
And lessons she imparted well by years of trial taught;
Pride, envy, hate, no dwelling place found in her noble breast,
And children that she gently reared rise up and call her "blest."
Strength, virtue, fortitude, she heired from honest, sturdy sires,
And for the stranger, on her hearth burned hospitable fires.
With a dear husband, gone before, the forest's gloom she dared,
And, while the country round was new, his dark privations shared.

III.

Why should we weep? Our fearful loss is her eternal gain,
And footprints left behind give proof that she lived not in vain;
The wintry mould is heaped above her cold, insensate clay,
But quaffs her spirit at the fount of everlasting day.
Community has lost a friend, the Church its choicest gem,
But mortals should not God's decree in their blind grief condemn;
Her mission to this "shoal of time" is over, and her deeds
Have ripened into precious grain, unchoked by weeds.

AN OLD SONG.

BY C. J. S.

You laugh as you turn the yellow page
Of that queer old song you sing,
And wonder how folks could ever see
A charm in the simple melody
Of such an old-fashioned thing.

That yellow page was fair to view,
That quaint old type was fresh and new,
That simple strain was our delight,
When here we gathered, night by night,
And thought the music of our day
An endless joy to sing and play,
In our youth, long, long ago.
A joyous group, we loved to meet,
When hope was high, and life was sweet;
When romance shed its golden light,
That circled, in a nimbus bright,
O'er time's unwrinkled brow.

The lips are mute that sang these words;
The hands are still that struck these chords;
The loving heart is cold.
From out the circle, one by one,
Some dear companion there has gone;
While others stay to find how true
That life has chord and discord too,
And all of us are old.

'T is not alone when music thrills,
The power of thought profound that fills
The soul. 'T is not all art!
The old familiar tones we hear
Die out upon the listening ear;
They vibrate in the Heart.

And now you know the reason, dear,
Why I have kept and treasured here
This song of bygone years.
You laugh at the old-fashioned strain:
It brings my childhood back again,
And fills my eyes with tears.

—*From Old and New for August.*

OLD AGE.

BY CAROLINE GILMAN.

Why should the old age escape unnoticed here,
That sacred era to reflection dear?
That peaceful shore where passion dies away,
Like the last wave that ripples o'er the bay?
Oh, if old age were canceled from our lot,
Full soon would man deplore the unhallowed blot;
Life's tranquil day would want its tranquil even,
And earth would lose her stepping stone to heaven.

PIONEER HISTORY.

FIRST SETTLERS OF NORWALK —INCIDENTS IN THE LIFE OF MR. AND MRS. S. B. LEWIS.

BY SAMUEL LEWIS.

Samuel B. Lewis came to Norwalk in the spring of 1814, from his native place, South Salem, Westchester County, New York, and was the third settler—Messrs. Abijah Comstock and Benjamin Newcomb preceding him. During that season he planted corn and potatoes, and sowed a small field of wheat, and returned to the State of New York in the fall for his family. Accompanied by his wife and child, on the 15th day of February, 1815, he started on his return trip to Ohio, in a covered wagon, to perform which journey required a period of forty-six days.

In 1814, he purchased two hundred acres of land lying on what is now the New State Road, and situate one and a half miles south from the present location of Norwalk, paying therefor one dollar and twenty-five cents per acre; the next year he sold out for five dollars per acre, and purchased two hundred acres about one mile south-east of the Court House, in Norwalk, which has been his home for five years over half a century, to the time of his death, which occurred July 14th, 1870, he being in the 81st year of his age.

At the time when Mr. Lewis settled in Ohio, of course the whole country was but a wilderness, there being no canals, no railroads, and but few wagon roads, and as he traveled westward, these at best were poor, and in fact to many of the roads there had been nothing more done than a survey made. In his route of travel to the west, he passed through New York City, Morristown, New Jersey, Easton, Allentown and Reading, Pennsylvania, to Harrisburg, where he crossed the Susquehanna on the ice, and saw a bridge in process of construction over the river; from thence through Carlisle, Pittsburg and Beaver, Pa., and Canfield, Ohio, to Cleveland, and from thence by way of Huron, Erie County, to Norwalk.

This journey, which was full of hardships, full of labor, full of discouragement, required patience equal to the trials, and an energy of purpose overcoming and superior to all obstacles.

Having reached his destination it was necessary to provide a dwelling, but he must first clear away sufficient of the forest for a dwelling; next the house must be built and made comfortable, and then there must be more clearing of the forest for the garden and fields for culture.

On every hand was the dense wilderness, the home of the red man, who held it in common with the wolf, the black bear, deer and other game. The Indians were indeed numerous, hundreds and thousands of them roaming through the forest, wherever and whenever they pleased; but they were generally peaceable, and their friendship was gained by treating them with kindness, which, whenever opportunity offered, they were generally careful to remember and reciprocate.—This was a prominent characteristic of the tribes here at the time of which we speak.

Mr. Lewis' nearest neighbor for a year or two was miles distant from him; this fact, however, rendered each family circle more dear within itself, and bound firmer and struck deeper those sweet ties of af-

fection which give to life its richest boon, and gave to the Pioneers the greatest joy in their wilderness home.

William Marshall, another pioneer and surveyor, with Mr. Lewis, traveled and surveyed much of the territory in Huron County. These two went days, sometimes weeks, together through the wilderness, camping out at night while they were surveying farms and public highways. Often has the writer of this article heard Mr. L. speak in the most commendable terms of Mr. Marshall; that he was in his nature kind and generous, a man of sobriety, industrious habits, and public spirited in his enterprises.

A few years after Mr. Lewis settled in Ohio, he had occasion to return again to the east, and having become quite thoroughly accustomed to wilderness life among savage tribes of Indians, he tho't not of danger and knew no fear. So, starting out on foot he walked the entire distance from Norwalk to Jersey City, opposite New York. On this trip, Mr. L. traversed one section of wilderness which was sixty miles through, and that entire distance not having a road or containing a dwelling of any kind, he camping at night alone in this wilderness tract.

For several years, and while the country was new and settlers came in, Mr. Lewis' house was always open and free of charge to new comers, and while they remained it was a welcome home for the weary traveler, and place of rest in the wilderness. On one occasion, and before there were any mills in the country for the manufacture of flour, Mr. L., from entertaining all that came along, unawares found that his quantity of flour was becoming quite too much reduced for his own welfare and that portion of the traveling public who saw fit to stop at his house, and there being at that time no market for flour nearer than Mansfield, he went there on horseback for it, and having purchased a barrel of the needed commodity, he, in order to transport it home, constructed a rude rack which was fitted and placed on the back of the horse, and in the rack was placed the barrel of flour and carried home.

Mr. Lewis was a man of very industrious habits; very energetic; no obstacles, however great, which could be overcome, ever discouraged or disheartened him. Farming was his principal vocation, in which he was always thorough, and almost invariably successful in producing bountiful crops. A few years after he settled in Ohio, he constructed a saw-mill and ran it several years, when it took fire and burned down; he, however, soon had it rebuilt and running again.—He often gave much of his time to the public in helping to open roads, build school-houses, and construct churches.—At other times he rendered public service, sometimes receiving small compensation therefor, but more generally none at all, in executing the duties of several minor offices, such as Justice of the Peace, to which office he was elected in 1820. He discharged their duties with trust and fidelity. Many times he was elected Township Trustee, several times was Assessor, and at other times was called upon to take the census. He assisted in locating and estimating the value of the right of way on one portion of the Sandusky, Mansfield & Newark Railroad, now the Lake Erie Division of the Baltimore & Ohio.

It is but justice to Mr. Lewis, and is therefore stated, that in no instance did he ever seek any of the foregoing offices or any other; he was in his nature and disposition quite retiring, leading a quiet, and unostentatious life, and sought rather to avoid than attract public attention.

He was social in his nature, devoted in his friendships, firm in his convictions of right and wrong, and when occasion required, ready to avow, but never wished improperly to intrude his convictions upon others. He was a member of the Protestant Episcopal Church; quite decidedly opposed to all secret societies of whatever nature, claiming that the Church, when in its purity, in truly teaching the Holy Scriptures, is a Society that embraces all and much more

sound doctrine, correct and pure principle, than any organization which man may seek to establish outside of the Church, and seek to put on an equal basis with, or perchance hold superior to, the Church. His was a much more discriminating mind than the casual observer would give him credit for, and though he was quick in taking, yet was deliberate in making, observations. He was a kind, indulgent father, an honest, upright citizen, an ardent lover of his country, beloved by his family and friends, and respected by the entire community, and like the patriarchs of old, he has gone to his rest like "a shock of corn fully ripe."

The maiden name of his wife was Amy Ferris, and her native place was Newtown, Fairfield County, Connecticut.—She emigrating with Mr. Lewis on their long trip of forty-six days, experienced no discouragement, but on the other hand hoped for the best, and was at all times cheerful. She endured all the years of her pioneer life with great fortitude, seldom, if ever, a murmur because of her hardships and privations escaped her lips, and that during that period she "never was discontented."

On one occasion, when there was no one at home but Mrs. Lewis and her little daughter, there came on horseback to the house two Indian women, or squaws, who wanted flour, which was kept in the house up stairs. Mrs. L. went up and was getting the flour, when she was soon followed by the two squaws, who at once commenced meddling by lifting the lids of chests, barrels, &c., whereupon Mrs. L. turned to them and shook her head, signifying that she was not pleased with their conduct; they in turn shook their heads and paid but little attention to Mrs. L., who hastened to put up the flour in a small bag, when all three went down to the room below, where Mrs. L. had left her little daughter, then almost two years of age. One of the squaws quickly picking up the child, the two hastened to their horses, mounted, and were galloping away with the little girl before Mrs. L. was really aware of it. She, however, pursued them as fast as possible and screaming, but fortunately the Indians had to pass the house of a neighbor about a mile distant, and there Mrs. L. thought she should be able to rescue her child, which she did, the squaws having become alarmed stopped their horses, dismounted, and sat the child on the ground, when Mrs. Lewis hastened to and rescued her, the Indians riding away as fast as possible.

Mrs. Lewis was also a member of the Episcopal Church; she embraced the Word of God as her rule of action, and in it found a refuge and there established her hopes of eternal rest. As a mother, she was kind and affectionate, and was highly esteemed and loved by her family and friends. She died in October, 1856.

Thus we have but briefly sketched some of the life-incidents and characteristics of these parties; let us now for a few moments in imagination place ourselves side by side with these and other Pioneers, travel as they traveled, endure as they endured, labor as they labored, with their homes in the wilderness; on every side roving tribes of Indians and wild beasts without number. But a little time further on, and the scene begins to change; the wilderness by the pioneers' toil, begins to fall away and fields of culture then appear; highways are opened, new settlers come; wild beasts, and a nation of savages in numbers numberless so shortly since, are forever gone; where stood the wigwam now behold the modest cottage or more stately mansion; where were the "Indian villages" of a savage people, now behold vast cities of a civilized nation; where were not wagon-roads even, are now railroads built and traveled upon by that one generation of Pioneers. Tell me, scholars of classic lore, in what age has lived a people that has wrought and witnessed such numberless and great changes as have been achieved by this one Pioneer generation?

INCIDENTS IN THE LIFE OF MRS. ELIZABETH L. GIBBS.

Fell asleep in Jesus, on the 4th day of October, 1873, at her late residence in Norwalk, Ohio, Mrs. Elizabeth L. Gibbs, aged 82 years, 6 months and 11 days, the widow of David Gibbs, Esq., who died March 16, 1840, aged 51 years, 9 months and 24 days. As they were among the early settlers of the Firelands, and took a prominent part in the events of those trying days, a brief history of their lives may not be uninteresting to their numerous relatives and friends, and also to the surviving pioneers.

Mrs. Gibbs was a daughter of Stephen and Sarah Lockwood, of Norwalk, Conn., and was joined in marriage with her late husband, on the 20th of May, 1810.—Soon after, Mr. Gibbs came to Ohio, in company with Judge Sherman, late of Lancaster, O., the father of Gen. Sherman, who had been his classmate in his academical and collegiate course, with the view of locating in the practice of law in the southern part of this State; but as he had a favorable opening at Bridgeport, Conn., he decided to return, and removed with his family to that place and commenced the practice of his profession.—There they resided some two years, when he entered the army of our country, in the war then in progress between the United States and Great Britain, where he served to the end of the war as First Lieutenant.

In the latter part of the summer of 1815, he again visited Ohio, and came (with his father-in-law, Stephen Lockwood, and his brother-in-law, Henry Lockwood,) to Norwalk, and erected a double log house, cleared off five acres of land and sowed it to wheat, and then all returned to Connecticut.

On the last day of January, 1816, Mr. and Mrs. G., with their two children, and Mr. Henry Lockwood, wife and one child (late of Milan), started for the far-off wilds of Ohio! The hardships and disasters of their journey, and their subsequent trials incident to pioneer life in those early days, were of a nature difficult to be understood by this generation, in these days of fast living and fast travel. Their train consisted of two heavy covered wagons, one of which, containing their household effects for their new home, was drawn by a yoke of oxen and a single horse, and driven by Mr. Lewis Keeler, who still survives, and lives near the late residence of Mr. and Mrs. G.; the other was drawn by a single span of horses, in which the two families rode. Nothing of marked importance occurred till their arrival at Cattaraugus Creek, 50 miles west of Buffalo, in the month of March;—whilst crossing this creek on the ice, it gave way, precipitating the baggage wagon and team to the bottom in some 10 or 12 feet of water. In this emergency they were aided by the friendly Indians, who dove down and rescued their goods, wagon and team, and for which generous act they would receive no other compensation than the carcasses of the drowned team. This kindness was appreciated and remembered with feelings of gratitude by all of its recipients.

They were detained at that place in drying their goods and in procuring another team, about two weeks, during which time the child of Mr. and Mrs. Lockwood sickened and died, and was buried at the mouth of the creek, in the sand-beach of Lake Erie. As they journeyed on, and before their arrival at Canadua, now Fredonia, Mr. and Mrs. G.'s youngest child was taken violently sick with what was called the camp dysentery, and in about two weeks departed. Their other child, a daughter five years old, and Mrs. G., were both prostrated with the same disease, and barely escaped with their lives. After a detention of six weeks, they so far recovered as to be able to again resume their journey; Mrs. G. was carried to the wagon and rode on a bed. During their afflictive sojourn at this place, they received many tokens of kindness and sympathy from the inhabitants, which were ever cherished with feelings of grateful remembrance.

They arrived without further incidents

of note at their new home, on the last day of April, having been just three months performing their journey, the time now required to go round the world, and that, too, at an expense not much greater.

Mrs. G. often remarked that their rude double log house "looked to her like a palace," and it subsequently bore the same enchanting appearance to many a weary pioneer who was the recipient of the kindness and good cheer of its occupants. It was the headquarters, or rather the home, of all their numerous acquaintances, and many others, emigrating to this region in those early days. At one time, for nearly two weeks, their families—Mr. G. and Mr. Lockwood being joint occupants—were increased to forty souls. Among them was the family of the late Platt Benedict, Esq., numbering seven persons, and the family of Captain John Boalt, father of the late Charles L. Boalt, Esq., numbering thirteen, of whom nine were down with the ague! For all this numerous family Mrs. G. did the cooking, baking, &c., with rude and limited utensils, designed for less than one-fourth of that number; whilst Mrs. Lockwood ministered to the sick with means for their comfort equally as limited. But the good Lord was with and sustained them, and they were blessed and happy in their labors of love.

Their farm was situated about one and a half miles east of the Court House, on the road leading to Cleveland. At that time, where the flourishing town of Norwalk stands, not a single house of any kind existed, and only a narrow wagon road had been cut through. The first house west was at Major Underhill's mill, near the east line of Ridgefield township, and houses in other directions were nearly as remote. At times they experienced much inconvenience from the scarcity of and difficulty in obtaining the staples of flour and pork. At one time, they had to send to Cleveland for flour and pay $25 per barrel, and for pork about the same rate. They subsisted one week on milk and potatoes alone. For a length of time they attended meetings at the house of Major Underhill. Generally they went on horseback, Mr. G. occupying the saddle with a child in his arms, and Mrs. G. sitting behind him, having another in her lap. Few of the pioneers could afford this luxury, but had to go on foot or be drawn with oxen.

Mr. and Mrs. G. were the parents of ten children, five of whom are not, and five still survive. The deceased are as follows: 1. An infant of but a few months, that died in Connecticut, a daughter; 2. The little boy who died at Fredonia in 1816; 3. A little daughter, aged 1 year, 7 months and 22 days, who died November 28, 1832; 4. James B., aged 28 years, 2 months and 13 days, fell asleep August 3, 1850, soon after he had finished his theological studies; 5. Ralph M., aged 30 years and 16 days, died of cholera August 16, 1854. The survivors are: 1. Mrs. Eliza L. Alling, wife of Pruden Alling, the only survivor of the foregoing history, and with whom Mrs. G. resided most of the time after her husband's death till her own departure; 2. David Gibbs, who resides at LeMars, in the western part of Iowa; 3. Roswell, now a resident of Troy, Miami County, Ohio; 4. Charles, a minister of the gospel, located at Cedar Falls, Iowa; 5. Mrs. S. Louisa Adams, wife of William Adams, of Clarksfield, Huron Co., Ohio, all of whom have children, and several of them grandchildren.

Mrs. G. was naturally affable and kind, and though possessed of a feeble constitution, there was much of patient endurance and a cheerful readiness to engage in whatever would promote the comfort and happiness of those around her.—From early life she was a firm believer in the Christian religion, having breathed no other atmosphere—a sweet and hallowed influence pervading the whole of her childhood and youth. At an early age she became a member of the Congregational Church in Norwalk, Connecticut, and ever maintained a strictly exemplary walk through the changing and often trying circumstances of her lengthened years. She deeply realized the import-

ance of training up her children in the nurture and admonition of the Lord, and fervently dedicated them to His service. Much of her time was devoted to religious reading and searching the Scriptures and meditating upon their cherished truths, which shone brighter and clearer to her vision as earthly prospects and hopes receded. One hope animated her whole life, and seldom can one be found more uniform in her Christian experience—one fixed purpose animating her through her whole existence—to know and to do the will of her Heavenly Father. As health declined, the promises of the Gospel became more and more precious, and she could truly be said to live as one waiting for deliverance. Her last sickness was very severe, but through it all there was the same Christian resignation she was wont to manifest through seasons of great trial and suffering. For three weeks previous to her death, she was prostrated by an attack of dysentery, accompanied with bilious fever. She was able to converse but little during her sickness, but at intervals would repeat favorite hymns and scripture texts expressive of her abiding hope and trust in her Saviour; and her faith was that she would have part in the resurrection of the just at the appearing of Christ.

Her funeral was attended at her late home, on the 7th of October, by a large concourse of her descendants, relatives and friends, with appropriate exercises. The services were conducted by Rev. Mr. Walter, of Milan, aided by Rev. Dr. A. Newton and Rev. H. H. Rice, all of the Presbyterian Church, and Elder F. Burr, of the Second Advent Church, of Norwalk.

EARLY RECOLLECTIONS OF WAKEMAN.

BY THE LATE EDWARD J. BUNCE.

In 1827, my father and his family left Woodbury, Conn., for Ohio, and arrived at Justus Miner's, at the center of Wakeman, September 12, 1827. There were twenty-eight families in the township at that time; within two weeks after our arrival, we moved into a log house at Wakeman Mills, on the east side of the Vermillion River. At that time we were the only inhabitants of the township on that side of the river. In 1824, the road called the River Road had been located from the Mills in Clarksfield Hollow to Luther Loveland's, in Florence; during the fall of 1827, that portion of the road from Wakeman Mills to the Center Road was cut through, and the timber cleared out, making a tax on my father of six days' work. While we were living in the mill house, Philo Sherman and Burton French were building the first bridge across the Vermillion River in this township; it was built near the place where the iron bridge now stands.

During our stay in the mill house, a great quantity of rain fell and the river was very high; on such occasions, my father acted as ferryman, taking the neighbors back and forth in an Indian canoe. On one of these occasions, while crossing for Burton French, when about midway of the stream, his paddle broke, and he with the canoe was carried over the dam, in passing which the water swept him from the canoe, and for a short time it seemed impossible for him to live or be extricated alive, but he soon made his escape from the roll of the water under the dam, and after being swept down the stream nearly to the bridge succeeded in making his escape, with the assistance of Mr. French. I think I have never known the water so high in the Vermillion since that time.

During the time my father lived in the mill house he had so far completed a new house at the center of Wakeman, that he thought best to move into it. In the month of January, our goods, with my mother and the children, were loaded on a flat-boat (called a scow, the largest boat on the river at that time), and my father with the assistance of some of the neighbors towed the boat up the Vermillion to the mouth of Brandy Creek. On arriv-

ing at our new home we found a log house with places for windows and doors. The windows were soon closed with shakes and the doors with blankets; we had a floor over one-third of the house, a chimney as high as the mantel-piece, but no floor above. An opening in the roof, six or seven feet square, gave us plenty of light, and also room for the smoke to escape.

In the spring of 1827, a school district had been formed at the center, embracing nearly three-quarters of the township, and contained eleven scholars. A log school-house had been completed, and the first three months school was in session when we arrived in Wakeman.

My father had fifty acres of land on the east side of the river, on what is now the east end of Jesse E. Hanford's farm. On this land was an Indian sugar camp, and the Indians had never failed to be there since the settlement of the township, and to use the camp during the sugar making season. They were there in the spring of 1827, the spring before we came, and left their camp with every thing packed in good order for their return the next season, but they never came again. Their huts were made of bark of the elm, their store troughs and small troughs of the same. The troughs were all packed in the huts, the bark doors closed up and a stick set leaning against the door, signifying that no one was at home. A paper flour sack with both ends tied and cut in two equal parts lengthwise, would be a fair representation of their troughs.

At the time of our arrival, the east and west center road had been located no further east than my father's farm at the center. Mr. Cyrus Strong had moved on his place a half mile east of the center one or two weeks before our arrival. He was the only neighbor east for twenty miles. During the year 1828, Peter Sherman arrived and settled a half mile east of C. Strong's. Isaac Todd also commenced his farm still farther east the same season. During this year the center road was continued from the center of Wakeman to Pittsfield or Grafton, in Lorain County, my father helping to locate and mark it out. A settlement on the east side of the Vermillion had now fairly commenced and their numbers were soon increased by the addition of Martin Bell and family, his father, Elias Bell and family, Simon Brown and family and Kneeland Todd and family—Isaac Todd being the first one to locate in that vicinity. The neighborhood received the name of the Todd Settlement, and still retains that name.

Soon after this settlement commenced, Isaac Todd and Cyrus Miner started a petition for a mail route from Grafton to Norwalk, which was granted and established, the Todd Settlement turning out and cutting the underbrush out of the road from the Vermillion east one-half the distance to the settlement in Lorain County, the Lorain settlement cutting the other half. The neighbors in the Todd Settlement also took turns in ferrying the mail carrier across the Vermillion on his way to Norwalk once a week. He carried the mail on foot, the mail bag being a large pocket-book which he stowed in a side pocket in his coat. He made a stopping place at my father's, getting many of his meals there, and frequently staying over night. From him we received all the news of importance once a week from either end of the route.

A JOURNEY FROM NEW ENGLAND TO THE FIRELANDS 55 YEARS AGO.

Harlon E. Simmons was born in Rehoboth, Bristol County, Massachusetts, December 14, 1798. When about 21 years of age, he started alone with one horse and an open light wagon, in October, 1819, to journey from that place to Greenfield, Huron County, Ohio, where he arrived in December following, at the residence of his father, Eliphalet B. Simmons, who had before located there.—From Massachusetts to the Genesee River in New York State, he found the

country comparatively well settled.—There the stage road crossed the Indian Reservation on the Genesee Flats.—From thence to Buffalo the road was new and very rough, much of it being "corduroy," made through a flat hemlock country. He had before averaged about thirty miles, but through this he could not exceed twenty miles, per day. There was then a stage running to Buffalo, drawn by four horses, once or twice a week, over this route, Buffalo being a distributing point for mails.

He left the main road west of Batavia, about twenty miles from Buffalo, and spent a week visiting friends in what was called the Holland Purchase, in Cattaraugus County. After passing the Indian Reservation, the country was very thinly populated by pioneers living in log houses—a framed dwelling being seldom seen. The War of 1812, during the three years of its continuance, had delayed emigration to the West. On the route to Buffalo from the Genesee, he saw but one brick house, it being a stage tavern. He saw no Church erections.—Schools and religious meetings were held in log buildings.

He followed down the Cattaraugus Creek to the Lake, and there struck the main emigrant road leading from Buffalo to Cleveland. He saw no towns along that road and only scattered inhabitants until he reached the small village of Erie, which had been a military point during the War. West of that, the next village was Painesville, at the mouth of Grand River, and the next was Cleveland, which consisted of a few board shanties and log cabins, with probably less than a hundred inhabitants. There was no regular stage line for the accommodation of travelers between Buffalo and Cleveland. There was a regular mail carried in open wagons. Bridges were few, many streams had to be forded, and in high water travel was obstructed until the streams subsided, or resort was had to boats for crossing them. The road was "corduroyed" in the worst muddy portions, and very little work was done on it. West of Cleveland the native timber was standing in the way, generally girdled, and the road wound between the trees, the underbrush and logs only being cleared out from the wagon track.

The first village west of Cleveland was Elyria, which was about as large as Cleveland, and more substantially built. Judge Ely, its founder, had built a good sized frame house and painted it, and erected a mill. There was no mill in Cleveland, and but one small frame house there. Judge Ely had come from Connecticut with means, enterprise and taste, and had given a flourishing appearance to Elyria. Taverns were generally to be found at the crossings of large creeks and rivers. There was no house between Cleveland and Rocky River, but at the latter place there was a tavern at which he stayed over night. There was no church building in Cleveland or Elyria. West of Elyria he saw only a few log houses along the road, except a small farm settlement at Florence, until he reached Milan, or the Indian Village, as it was then called, which was inhabited by Indians, with a few whites. The Indian huts were most numerous, and differed from the log dwellings of the whites only by being smaller in size. West of the Holland Purchase this was the first Indian settlement he saw. There was a contrast between the habits of the Indians here and those which were at the Genesee Reservation. The latter were quite civilized, cultivating the soil and raising large crops of corn on the rich bottom lands. They suspended their corn to dry braided together by the husks, on long poles placed on forked sticks driven into the ground. They raised large numbers of good looking ponies, and were very quiet and orderly.—At the Indian Village, they subsisted by hunting and fishing. The few whites also hunted and fished, but gave some attention to the cultivation of the soil.—The Indians had agreed to sell out and go further West, but did not remove until about 1821. The whole Firelands was then included in Huron County, and

the Sheriff, David Hinman, was living at the Indian Village. The mails were carried along this route, in open wagons, and there were no stages or accommodations for travelers except as they rode in these open wagons. East of Buffalo there were covered mail wagons, but none west. Passing through Indian Village, the only road open to Norwalk was by the farm of Philo Comstock and Gibbs' Corners. The two farm houses occupied by Comstock and Gibbs were the only ones seen until he came to the residence of Luke Keeler. Norwalk village was small, but appeared thriving, with one or two stores doing a fair business. Enos Gilbert, afterwards Sheriff, kept tavern in the frame building since occupied as a hotel by Obadiah Jenney, and now standing next west of Whittlesey block.—There was no church building. The houses were all on Main street, and north of that was low, marshy ground with no settlers on it. Natural trees, chiefly oaks, were growing in Main street, and after passing the center of the village the track became very narrow, worming among the trees. David, father of Isaac Underhill, had established his mill on the East branch of the Huron, and was living on the flat by the river, which was then a much larger stream than it is now. The father of Miner Cole and Timothy Taylor then were the only settlers between Underhill's and the village of Macksville, now known as Peru. Mr. Mack, the founder of the village, had built a saw and grist mill and a small frame house, about which a few log houses had been erected, forming the little village, but there was no store. Dr. Moses C. Sanders, then or soon after was living there in a log house, and was the only physician in that part of the County.

GREENFIELD IN 1819.

Eliphalet B. Simmons, the father of Charles B. and Harlon E. Simmons, was then living on the farm of about seven hundred acres, since his death occupied by his two sons. His house stood near the four corners, at the present residence of Charles B. Simmons. The four roads were then opened through his farm, which now lead north to Peru, east to North Fairfield, south to New Haven, and west to the central road from Monroeville to Greenfield Center and New Haven. Lemuel Brooks and Daniel Holliday lived north on the Macksville road. David Lovell, John Pierce, Eli and Abel Holliday, William and Barnhard Carkhuff lived on the road running south.

William Carkhuff was subsequently Sheriff of the County. He and his brother then owned a small grist mill in a log building near the site of the present grist mill of Aumend & Simmons, being the only one in the township. This mill was a primitive contrivance, built by a man named Hanson Reed, employed by the land owners to increase the setttlement of the country by the introduction of manufactures. It was all of logs and hewed puncheon, without a sawed board in it, and was covered with oak bark, peeled from the trees; and it had but one small run of stone. Greenfield township was then organized, but not having sufficient population, the adjoining townships of Norwich, Peru, and Fairfield were attached to it for township purposes for a few years, until independently organized. There was then no store in Greenfield or Peru, and the nearest one north was at Norwalk.—About that time a small store was opened at New Haven by the firm of Beach & Ives. There was a store, and a grist and saw mill at Monroeville. There was no church erection in the township, but meetings were held occasionally at Greenfield Center, by Rev Alvin Coe, of the Presbyterian and Congregational Union, who resided there and was a Missionary to various parts of the country. Itinerant preachers of other denominations began to come in the course of a few years, but the Church organized by Mr. Coe was the first in Greenfield. In

a year or two after, the first Sabbath School was formed at the Center, in which Mr. Simmons was a teacher.—Meetings were held in a log building used as a school house. There was an acre of ground set apart for a public square, and now used as such. The school house, and three buildings occupied by Samuel and Hiram Spencer, Benjamin Washburn and Rev. Alvin Coe, constituted the village. South of it and near the village, Seba and Horace Mather kept a public house. There was none at the Center. The first house east of the Center was that of Samuel Spencer, Jr.

Except at Indian Village, there were no Indians living in the Firelands, but at Greenfield Center Rev. Mr. Coe kept a school for the education of Indian youth. There were some Indians in Sandusky County, who occasionally came through the Greenfield woods in their hunting expeditions, but had no difficulty with the settlers and did not trouble them.—They would put up temporary lodges and stay for weeks in the vicinity. Game was abundant, chiefly deer, plenty of wild turkeys, and great numbers of black and gray squirrels. Fish came up the river from the Lake; some were taken out of the stream in Greenfield over two feet in length. Wolves occasionally prowled about. Mr. Harlon Simmons was pursued by a pack of them one night on the town line road between Peru and Greenfield, and took refuge in the house where Moses Smith lived, which they surrounded with a free concert until morning.—But wolves were not very numerous, and bears seldom appeared except in the neighborhood of the Big Marsh in Richmond and New Haven townships. Orchards had been supplied from the nurseries of the famous itinerant philanthropist, known to the settlers only by the name of Johnny Appleseeds. His nurseries being exhausted in Huron County, Mr. Harlon Simmons went with his father to one in the north-east corner of Delaware County, planted by Appleseed four or five years previous, and brought back as many as they could on their two horses. A little piece of ground of about a quarter of an acre was cleared and fenced only by the fallen trees, in which the apple seeds were sown broadcast like grain, and the young trees grew up very thickly. The philanthropist occasionally visited the settlers, distributing among them Swedenborg pamphlets. He was aged about 50, when Mr. Simmons saw him, was social and intelligent, received what the people chose to give him, making no charges, and always had a friendly greeting from them. Mr. Harlon Simmons, not long after he settled in Greenfield, organized the first singing choir there at the Center school-house, and also choirs in Peru and Fairfield, and formed a band of musical and stringed instruments, which contributed much to the social life of the settlements. In 1820, he first visited Sandusky City, or Ogontz Place, as it was then called. He found a dock built, one or two stores, and a small settlement about as large as that which he had seen at Cleveland. In 1823, he returned on a visit to Massachusetts, taking a schooner from Sandusky to Buffalo and being five days on the Lake, delayed by contrary winds. East from Buffalo he found good stage conveyance, and a rapid improvement of the country.

FAMILY RE-UNIONS.

Since the last volume of the *Pioneer* was issued in 1870, many interesting anniversaries have occurred in the homes of the Firelands Pioneers, of which we can record but few. On the 11th of August, 1874, at Norwalk, the family of Judge Timothy Baker held their annual re-union at the homestead. Mr. Baker, Sr., was then 87 years old, and in the enjoyment of unusually good health. Gathered around his board on this occasion were all his family, with the exception of his wife, who died in 1862, death in that year having for the first and only time broken the family circle. His children and children's children were all present, the former being composed of Mrs. M. A. Corwin and James W. Baker, of Norwalk, William, Charles H., and George Baker, of Toledo, and Timothy Baker, Jr., of Chicago. Besides these were other members of the various families of the children, making in all a company of 30 persons. The ages of the children range from 58 to 44. Mr. Baker has been a resident of Norwalk 57 years.

Another very interesting re-union occurred on the 7th of October, 1873, at the residence of Mr. and Mrs. Nathan Wooster, in Norwalk, being the sixty-third anniversary of their marriage. He being then 85 and she 80 years of age, received the congratulations of three generations of the family present. The following account of it was written for the Reflector by John F. Dewey, whose decease since is recorded in our obituary list:

On the 7th of October, 1810, Nathan Wooster and Almira Fairchild were married in Alford, Berkshire Co., Mass., and of all the company present at the wedding, the groom and bride are the only survivors.

The first twenty years of their married life were passed in that locality, where their children were born with the exception of the youngest son. In 1830, they emigrated to Ohio, locating in Green Creek township, now Clyde, where they remained two years, removing from thence to Wellington, Lorain Co., in 1832.—Here they settled on a new and heavily timbered farm of 160 acres, enduring all the hardships and privations incident to pioneer life, and by energy, perseverance and toil succeeded in creating a pleasant home, and surrounding themselves with all the comforts of life. In 1850, they came to Norwalk, where they have since resided.

A remarkable fact in the history of the family, consisting of one daughter and five sons, is, that for sixty-three years no death has occurred, save that of the fourth son, Col. Moses F. Wooster, of the 101st Ohio Infantry, who was killed by rebel bullets on the bloody battle-field of Murfreesborough, Tenn., Jan. 1st, 1863.

On Tuesday last, it being the sixty-third anniversary of their marriage, the venerable couple had a family gathering

at their residence, of children, grandchildren, great-grand-children, and other relatives, including also the Rev. Mr. Searles, pastor of the Methodist Church, and wife, to the number of between thirty and forty, and the occasion was one of interest and pleasure, and will long be remembered by those present.

The rooms were handsomely decorated with trailing vines, and over the parlor mantel, wrought with autumn leaves, the inscription, "1810 and 1873," while underneath were hung the portraits of the aged pair, the whole giving to the apartments a cheerful and most delightful appearance. The afternoon was most agreeably spent in congratulating the "bride and groom" of sixty-three years, and listening to the recital of incidents connected with their earlier days, until supper was announced, when all sat down to tables loaded with such luxuries and delicacies as were little known to the guests who were present at the original wedding. After doing ample justice to the elegant entertainment, all were assembled in an adjoining apartment where the "groom and bride" were surprised by being presented with handsome and costly presents by each of their descendants present, even to a one-year-old great-grand-child. Among the gifts was a very handsome gold-headed cane, with this inscription engraved upon it: "Nathan Wooster, 63d marriage anniversary, 1810, Oct. 7th, 1873." Mrs. Wooster was presented with a massive gold ring, on which was also engraved, "N. W. to A. F.," and the same dates as on the cane. An elegant dressing-gown and a pair of slippers, from the only daughter, Mrs. E. O. Foot, of Wellington, were among the presents evidently highly prized by the aged father.

The presentation of each gift was accompanied by a few kind words from the donor, evincing the respect and affection for the worthy couple that pervaded the family circle. The Rev. Mr. Searles responded on behalf of the recipients in a few feeling and eloquent remarks, when all joined in singing that beautiful and touching hymn, "Shall we gather at the river," followed by prayer invoking the Divine blessing on all present, and that the meeting which had been so highly enjoyed by the venerable couple as well as the guests, might be a foreshadowing of a happy re-union beyond the shores of time where partings would be unknown.

Mr. and Mrs. Wooster are yet vigorous, retaining their mental faculties in a remarkable degree, and are likely to witness a return of many anniversaries of their wedding day. That their lives may be thus prolonged, and that their remaining years, as in the past, may be gilded with the choicest of heaven's blessings, was the fervent aspiration of all who were present on the memorable occasion.

The Golden Wedding of Mr. David Wood was celebrated at his residence in Fitchville, Huron County, on Wednesday, Sept. 6, 1871.

Many invitations had been extended, including children and kindred, ministers of the Gospel, teachers who had taught their children, and a long list of their old and tried friends, eighty-two of whom responded by their personal presence, while others who were providentially detained, sent letters regretting their absence and bearing assurances of love and esteem, all of which were read on the occasion.

The table was prepared on the north side of the family mansion in the open air, under the shade of the beautiful fruit trees. It was extended to meet the wants of the occasion, so that all present could be seated at once. The table was provided with every thing the heart could wish, and was served with the most generous hospitality. Its adornments of boquets were very beautiful, most of which

were furnished by their friends. We noticed one, which occupied a central position on the table, that was very beautiful indeed. It was furnished by Mrs. G. G. Cone, of Reading, Hillsdale County, Michigan, and brought all the way in the hand of Mrs. Emily F. Abbott, one of the daughters of Mr. Wood.

The aged pair were seated at the head of the table. Over their heads was suspended a beautiful banner, bearing in golden letters the following inscription:

1821. GOLDEN WEDDING. 1871.

"Their Children rise up and call them Blessed."

At the side of each was suspended their portraits, life size, in gilt frames. These portraits were taken while they were residents of New York City, in the early days of their married life. All present, therefore, had an opportunity of noting the changes old Time had wrought.

Addresses were made by Mr. Wood, by his son-in-law, Rev. A. D. Abbott, and by others, and a brief, well written one from Mrs. Wood was read.

Many valuable gifts were presented to Mr. and Mrs. Wood by their children and friends, consisting of gold coin and currency, jewelry and useful articles in gold and silver, all of which no doubt they will cherish as mementoes of the esteem and regard of the donors.

The friends tarried in social intercourse about the mansion till late in the afternoon, and a large number until the curtain of night was drawn around them;—and thus a day never to be forgotten by those in attendance was brought to a close.

PIONEER OBITUARY RECORD.

1870—1874.

The four years which have elapsed since the termination of the obituary record contained in the last volume (10) of the *Pioneer*, have prepared a long mortuary list, comprising many honored and esteemed names, and many eyes will look upon it with sorrow. In the Biographer's reports published with the proceedings of the Society in the first part of this volume, will be found notices of the following deaths:

Samuel B. Lewis, July 15, 1870, aged 80
Orlando F. Curtiss, Aug. 19, '70, " 55
Joel E. Mead, " " " " 54
Charles L. Boalt, " 10, " " 67
Mrs. Jas. Williams, " 26, " "
Mrs. Bradstreet Stevens, Aug. 23, 1870.
Margaret (Lewis) Gibbs, Feb. 10, 1870, aged 76.

Rev. Elder Barber, Feb., 1870, aged 69
Johnson Wheeler, Sept. 27, '70, " 73
Thomas Puckrin, April 3, 1871, " 61
Catharine (Van Ness) Carpenter, March 13, 1871, aged 63.
Julius House, March 13, 1871, aged 85
Clement Beardsley, May 2, " " 64
Sheldon Smith, February 9, " " 80
Rev. Xenophon Betts, May 18, '71," 71
Mary McMillan, " " " " 71
Benjamin L. Hill, " 13, " " 57
Hiram Boardman, April 15, " " 65
Cyrus Lyman, May 25, " " 75
Stephen Sawyer, February, " " 85
Polly Sampson, " " " 83
Daniel Hemmingway, January 5," " 70
Mary Hathaway, June 12, " " 77
Jane Cuddeback, December, " " 94
Elihu Clary, September, " " 83
Joseph C. Curtiss, September 4, " " 69
Theodia Smith, December 5, " " 82
Horace Ramsdell, January 29, '72," 79
Mary Barnes, March 8, 1872.
Neverson Sherman, May 27, '72, aged 67
Benj. P. Smith, Feb. 17, " " 82
David H. Pease, Jan. 13, " " 46
Rebecca Phillips, Aug. 2, " " 94
Mrs. Moses Burnham, " 21, " " 76
Levi R. Sutton, Sept. 3, " " 78
Philip Moffatt, Sept. 5, " " 84
Charles Keith, December 21, " " 75
Robert W. Betts, " " 84
Isaac Miller, December, " " 64
Lydia Kellogg, " " 74
Jacob Sherborts, December, " " 67
Ira Parsons, May, 1873, " 67
Anson Wilson, February 9, " " 72
Mrs. Wm. Parrish, June 10, " " 80
Simon H. Sprague, Dec., " " 70
Jabez Deming, November 18, " " 84
Violetta Manahan, Dec. 18, " " 94
Andrew Wood, June 20, 1874, " 68
Virgil Squires, June 1, " " 65
Jonas Leonard, March 13, " " 78
Julia Johnson, January 14, " " 81
Perry Beckwith, March 15, " " 77
Betsey Rundle, March 17, " " 82
Bethuel Cole, May 21, " " 77
Lester Clark, January 31, " " 78
Laura Underhill, Feb. 18, " " 75

To these we add the following obituaries of other Pioneers, including more extended notices of some of those above named.

David Stiles, the centenarian, formerly residing in the Firelands, of whom an account was given in the Pioneer, vol. 9, page 62, died in October, 1873, at Dubuque, Iowa, aged 107 years and four months.

Hiram Boardman died at Townsend, April 15, 1871, in his 66th year. He was born October 3, 1805, in Fairfield, Franklin County, Vermont, and with his parents, Amos and Prudena Boardman, moved to Corinth, Orange County, Vermont, where he lived until about 27 years of age, when he was married to Delia Richardson, of Swanzey, New Hampshire. One year after, he moved to Roylston, Mass., where he lived about one year, during which time he learned the trade of blacksmithing. He then started for Ohio, April, 1835. After looking over the hills of New England for a place to locate a home, he determined to find a more favorable location than among the rocks and hills of his native country.—Leaving his family (wife and child) with her parents at Swanzey, he set out for Ohio, which journey he made on foot to Cuyahoga Falls, thence to Milan, in Erie County, much of the way by very bad roads. He bargained for the farm on which he afterwards lived and died, of Arthur Howard, and returned to the East and moved with his family, arriving in Townsend June 6, of the same year, 1835, and took possession of his wilderness home, for which he paid six dollars per acre, it being partly improved.

He taught school some, and was a trusted and valuable citizen, holding at various times offices of honor and trust, and died as he lived, respected and esteemed. He died of disease of the heart

from which he was a sufferer several years.

Mr. Joel E. Mead died in Norwalk, August 15, 1870, aged 53 years. He was born at Southeast, State of New York, on the 16th of March, 1817. In May of the same year his father, the late Abraham Mead, moved to Fitchville, Huron County, with his family of nine children, of whom Joel E. was the youngest. In 1832, they removed to Norwalk, and onto the farm where he resided till his decease. Of course, the subject of this notice was familiar with all the hardships, incidents and pleasures of pioneer life. His father was a model farmer and citizen, and the son did honor to his training, being one of the most tidy and successful of Norwalk farmers. He was highly social, a good neighbor, kind friend, affectionate, indulgent and beloved in all his family relations. He was united in marriage with Miss Betsey Ann Lewis, daughter of Samuel B. Lewis, Esq., with whom he lived happily for more than a quarter of a century, and by whom he had five children, who survive to mourn his departure, though not as those without hope, for he had long lived a Christian life and was an Elder of the Presbyterian Church at his death. He died after a long and very painful illness, and the numerous throng of sympathizing friends who followed him to his final earthly rest, evinced the esteem in which he was held.

Orlando F. Curtiss died at his residence in Norwalk, August 19, 1870, of Cancer in the Stomach, after a lingering and distressing illness of nine weeks, aged 55 years. The deceased was born in Tyringham, Mass., in 1815, and was left an orphan at eight years of age. At the age of eighteen, in 1836, he came to Norwalk in a lumber wagon, and commenced a pioneer life in the woods, having for a guide and guardian a worthy and affectionate aunt—Mrs. Lucy Jackson.

In 1841, he was married to Miss Angeline, eldest daughter of the late Samuel B. Lewis, Esq., who survives to mourn—though not without hope—her sad bereavement. They were a mutual blessing to each other, and had an interesting family of children. Their first home after marriage was a primitive log cabin on a piece of heavy forest which he felled with his own axe, about two miles east of his late residence, the frame buildings on which were the work of his own hands. His religious predilections were Protestant Episcopal, of which Church he had been a consistent and worthy member for many years. Never ostentatious, ever free from pride, not a busybody in other men's matters, he was dignified and courtly in all his bearings. Few men at his age, in his sphere of agricultural life, had succeeded in making more warmly attached friends. He was more than cordial and hospitable—he was genial. As a father, he was kind and indulgent; as a husband, considerate and affectionate.—His educational advantages were limited, but his mind and faculties were of an order which, with good advantages, would have made him a successful speaker and reasoner.

Throughout his entire sickness he was a model of suffering patience; no murmur nor complaint was heard. As the messenger of death drew near he expressed himself resigned and at peace, and exhorted his children to seek the Saviour. His mind was clear to the last, and at times, appearing to be absorbed in contemplation of the brighter world, would say, "Do n't talk now; let us be silent before God." Several days before his departure he gave full directions for his funeral. He died surrounded by the kindest attentions from his wife, children and numerous friends, and went peacefully to rest. A large and solemn assembly of weeping and sympathizing friends who followed him to his final earthly rest, testified to the esteem in which he was held.

Mrs. Jane Cuddeback died in Vermillion, December 21, 1871, aged 94 years. She was relict of the late Peter Cuddeback, and was indeed a mother in Vermillion. She came with her husband and six children from the State of New York and settled on the farm on which she died, in the year 1811, when it was an unbroken wilderness. By patient toil and economy they became possessed of a competence, and raised a large family of twelve children. Her descendants are numerous, and many of them highly respected and useful citizens. Sixty years she was a resident of the Firelands. In the early settlement of the country her house was ever open to shelter, and her hand ready to feed and lodge, the weary emigrant. Indeed, it is doubtful whether there were in all the crowd of noble men and women who devoted themselves to opening up this beautiful country, any that more generously and assiduously devoted themselves to the entertainment and comfort of strangers and friends.—Their "latch-string was always out."

She was possessed of wonderful physical endurance. After she was seventy-five years of age, it was not uncommon for her to attend to her own domestic affairs at home on the lake shore, and then go afoot to visit her friends on the Ridge, four miles, and return the same way at evening. Her latter years were years of affliction, having been blind for nine years, and she was a widow over thirty. Her mental faculties remained good till near the close of her long life.

Dr. Benjamin L. Hill died at Marysville, California, May 13, 1871, aged 57 years. He was born December 18, 1813, in Tioga County, Pennsylvania, and was the son of Noah and Suky Hill, who were originally from the State of Connecticut. He came to this country in 1818, and has ever since considered it his home. He was married in 1841, to Joanna Grier, of Worthington, in this State, sister of the widow of the late Dr. T. V. Morrow, President of the Eclectic Medical College of Cincinnati. He leaves a wife and five children, three sons and two daughters. The son of a pioneer, and born on a farm, he first labored at farm work, but soon left it to enter other callings, and was successfully occupied for some years as a teacher, clerk and merchant. He first commenced the mercantile business at Birmingham, in Erie County, with Ahira Cobb, now of Cleveland, as a partner, and continued in it for some years with success. After this he studied law for some time; and some years later attended lectures at, and graduated from, the law school in Cincinnati, but never practiced this profession much if any. Later in life he studied medicine and practiced this profession for some years in different parts of the State. He was at one time located at Birmingham, in his practice, but practiced more in Cincinnati, where he was for some years Professor of Anatomy and Surgery in the Eclectic Medical College. Dr. Hill, at a later date, was one of the founders of the Homœopathic College in Cleveland. He at one time held two Professorships in it, and lectured there for seven or eight winters. He also filled a Professorship for a short time in the Homœopathic College of St. Louis, giving a course of lectures there in 1860. He has been the author of a work on Eclectic Surgery, published in Cincinnati in 1850, and also joint author with Professor Hunt of a work on Homœopathic Surgery, published in Cleveland in 1855. He was also author of a small work much used by Homœopathists, called the Healing Art, of which eleven editions have been published. At one time Dr. Hill was the leading spirit in the Water Cure establishment at Berlin Hights, and afterwards he was extensively engaged in the lumbering business at Saginaw, Michigan; and whilst there he was elected to, and served one term as Representative in, the Legislature of that State. In 1863, he was appointed by President Lincoln Consul at Nicaragua, Central America, where he spent one year, and where his health was much im-

paired, but he so far recovered his health after his return as to serve part of two terms in the Ohio Legislature, to which he was elected as Representative from Erie County. He served nearly the whole of the first term, but was unable through failing health to serve much of the last term, for which he was elected. Dr. Hill was emphatically a worker, being almost always active with body or mind. He possessed in an eminent degree that Yankee capacity and tact of turning every opportunity and event in life to profit or improvement.

Clement Beardsley, Esq., died at Vermillion, Erie County, May 2, 1871, after a long sickness, during which he did not appear to be sensible of much suffering. He was in his 64th year. He was one of the earliest settlers on the Firelands, having come into Vermillion, where he continued to reside his whole life, with his parents, as early as 1811. His educational advantages were very limited, notwithstanding which he was an energetic and thorough farmer and fruit-grower, and exercised much political influence, having twice been elected as one of the Board of Commissioners of Erie County. He was married in 182–, to Miss Sarah Ackers, who bore him several children, five of whom, with his feeble and aged widow, still live. He began the world poor, but with untiring industry raised his family respectably, surrounding himself with the comforts and some of the elegancies of life. He was a kind husband and father and a neighbor of many good qualities, a firm friend of the downtrodden and oppressed, and freely contributed of his means and his sons to the cause of his country in her time of trial. Mr. Beardsley was for sixty years a resident of the Firelands; was a small boy at the time he came with his parents to the Firelands, remembering the scenes and sufferings of the settlers during the war of 1812. His father was absent in New York at the time of the disastrous and distressing retreat of the residents after the surrender of Detroit by General Hull. The mother hid the most of her scanty household utensils in the sand of the beach of Lake Erie, and with her little ones ran from the murderous tomahawk of the savages. The father heard afar off the harrowing report that his wife and little ones had fallen prey to savage lust and vengeance, and hastened back to learn the worst as fast as tramping on foot between paroxysms of ague and fever would permit, to find them all safe. O, joyous disappointment!

Wolves and bears were very plenty in the lonely woods three miles back from the Lake, and all previous settlements where the family settled about 1814 or 1815, hoping to avoid the miasma of the shore region. Here he wandered and got lost near night, and the distressed father, after several hours' search with torches, in the literally howling wilderness, found his darling boy trying to find a hollow log in which to spend the night safe from the wild beasts. It was Clement who found the old bear and her cubs —as related in one of the first volumes of the *Pioneer*—instead of his brother.— Pounded corn and roasted coon made him many a delicious repast in those early times.

Mrs. Margaret Gibbs, relict of the late William Gibbs, died in Milan, February 10, 1871, aged 76 years. She left four sons and one daughter. A short time previous to her death, her children gathered around the dying bed and listened to her last words, as she spoke of heaven and its happiness. She expressed herself ready to depart and be at rest.— "For," said she, pointing heavenward, "I have children, brothers and sisters up there, who have gone before me, and in a few hours I shall join them in that happy place where partings never come."

Mrs. Gibbs' maiden name was Lewis; she was born in Warren, Montgomery County, New York, June 16, 1794; was

married to Mr. William Gibbs October 20, 1815, and was the mother of thirteen children. They came to Milan, in 1834. She lived with her husband, fulfilling all the duties of a faithful and Christian wife and mother, over fifty-five years, and was a faithful member of the Baptist Church for many years. She was one of the old style of housewives who laid her hands to the spindle and clothed her family for many years with the manufactures of her own hands. She learned in her youth to play on a musical instrument of two strings, one a few feet in length and the other lengthened at the pleasure of the player; and though the music might not be very popular in these days, the results to the family were very comforting in "ye olden time."

Daniel Hemenway died in New London, January 5, 1871, aged 70 years and 11 months. He was a native of Conway, Berkshire County, Massachusetts; was born in 1800, married in 1823, to Miss Miranda Bradley, remained in Massachusetts until the spring of 1835, when he came to Ohio, and stopped at Brownhelm, Lorain County, where he had two brothers living at that time. He spent the summer prospecting for a place to locate, and determined finally to settle in New London, and removed there in the fall of 1835, with his family, consisting of a wife, four sons and a daughter, since which time one son, Collier, has been added to the family. He located on a farm of one hundred and fifty acres, situated half a mile east of what is now the village of New London, which farm remains to this day in the possession of the family.

He was a natural mechanic, and followed the trade of a carpenter, doing many jobs of work in that line. When the Sandusky, Mansfield & Newark Railroad was built, he took the job of laying the old fashioned wooden rails from Monroeville south to Plymouth.

He was elected Justice of the Peace about 1840, which office he filled for a number of years with credit to himself and to the satisfaction of his townsmen. He was a deacon in the Baptist Church, of which he was a member many years.

Horace Ramsdell died at Bloomingville, January 29, 1872, aged 79 years. He was born in Greenwich, Mass., Sept. 4, 1792. At the age of five years, Horace, in company with his father's family, moved from Massachusetts to the State of New York. Becoming dissatisfied with their home there, they emigrated to Ohio, in the year 1810, and settled in what is now Danbury township, Ottawa County. While residing here, our subject was united in wedlock to Miss Sarah Willet, with whom he lived but seven months, the Omnipotent One seeing fit in His wise Providence, to call her away. Thus early he was left alone.

At the time of Perry's victory on Lake Erie, Horace and his brother John were out on the lake in a small skiff, which the brothers were managing to suit themselves. They witnessed the attack and the surrender. They saw Perry as he left the "Lawrence" and boarded the "Niagara." As soon as they ascertained the true character of the surrender, they struck out for Cleveland to herald the good tidings. This was the first news the people of Cleveland received of the engagement or its results. Mr. R. has always said that the place where we supposed our American soldiers were buried on Put-in-Bay, was the exact spot where the country's enemies were interred, and that the defenders of our country, who fell in this struggle, were buried about twenty rods south of this place.

In the year 1825, he was again married, this time to Miss Sarah Bullard, who survives him to mourn with the afflicted children. The fruits of this marriage were twelve children, eight girls and four boys, seven of whom are now living, namely, John, Sarah, Salyma, Adelia, James, Horace and Lydia.

In the year 1828, they moved from the Peninsula to Bloomingville, and settled opposite the residence of S. B. Caldwell, now of Sandusky. Mr. Ramsdell has been a resident of this place for over forty-three years. There are many interesting reminiscences connected with his life, but space will forbid of our reciting more than one or two of them.—While living across the bay, he had occasion to come over to Bloomingville for some purpose, and during the night he was absent the bay froze over. Upon returning to Sandusky where his canoe was anchored, he discovered the situation. Rather than take the tedious walk home, and a dangerous one, too, for the Indians were numerous then, by the way of Fremont, he decided to cross on the ice at the peril of his life. Taking off his boots, that he might not slip and break through, he started. In due time he reached the other shore, having made the journey with the ice so thin that it cracked every step he took, and for that reason he could see his path for a mile behind him. The ice could not have been more than two inches in thickness. His stockings were worn out when he reached the Peninsula.

Mr. Ramsdell has slept many a night in Sandusky when he was obliged to lie under his canoe, as a shelter for the night. He was a good marksman, and delighted in the sport of hunting or trapping. He was an upright man in all his dealings with his fellow-men, and especially was he fond of pleasing children; always ready to tell them a story.

Jairus Kennan died in Norwalk, on Sunday, June 16, 1872, aged 59 years.—Mr. Kennan was one of the oldest members of the Bar at Norwalk, and will be remembered with great respect by all who have ever done business in Huron County Courts. He was competent for every professional responsibility he ever assumed, and all business committed to him was faithfully and thoroughly done.—His habits were very quiet, and matters entrusted to him were never carried into Court, could it be avoided. In former years his collection business was very large, and he generally had the full confidence of creditors and debtors, securing the best good of both.

In social life, Mr. Kennan was universally and cordially respected and welcomed. In the Church his loss is irreparable. He has been connected with the Presbyterian Church at Norwalk longer than any living member, and no man in it was ever more useful. He was the leader of the choir for a full generation. He had been connected with the Sabbath School longer than any living member, and there, also, he was second to no man in fidelity and usefulness.

The Norwalk Bar met and adopted the following tributary resolutions, which, by order of the Courts, were entered on their records:

Resolved, That the members of the Norwalk Bar have learned with profound sorrow of the removal by death of our esteemed associate, Jairus Kennan.

Resolved, That the decease of one who has been honorably connected with their Bar, in the full and continued practice of his profession, for a period of about thirty-seven years, being longer than any of its living members, is an event of peculiar interest in its history, and calls for the united tribute of our personal regard to his memory.

Resolved, That in the decease of Mr. Kennan, we have lost an associate who, as a lawyer, was learned in his profession, in his business industrious, to his clients devoted, and in his practice ever reliable and upright.

Resolved, That in the relations of husband, father and friend, and in his intercourse with his associates of this Bar, his kindness and generosity of heart were constantly manifest, and in his conduct as a citizen, he was always patriotic, liberal and active in every movement for the public good.

Resolved, That in witness of our cordial sympathy with the bereaved family

and friends of the deceased, we will together attend his funeral; and we respectfully request the Courts of this County to inscribe this testimonial on their records.

David Walsworth, late of Peru township, Huron County, died in Denver, Colorado, aged 61 years.

Mrs. Clarissa A. Morse died at the residence of her daughter, Mrs. S. B. Webster, in Painesville, October 4, 1873. She was born at Weathersfield, Conn:, on the 24th of October, 1789. She came with her husband, Zebediah Morse, and one child, to Huron County, in 1818, and was among the first settlers of the Fire-lands. At that time there were a few residences in Cleveland and one frame house in Norwalk, but while having to undergo the privations and hardships that followed the hardy pioneers, she always found time and opportunity for the exertion of those noble traits of character that followed and were inseparable from the early settlers. At their hnmble home in the wilderness, between Norwalk and Monroeville, many a weary and benighted traveler has shared free hospitalities.— During her long life she was an earnest and consistent member of the Christian Church.

William Bowen died in Norwalk, January 19, 1871, aged 76 years.

Cyrus Lyman died in Norwalk, May 23, 1871, aged 75 years.

Salmon Green and his wife died in Fitchville; she on November 13th, 1873, in her 78th year, and he a few days after in his 75th year, and both were buried the same day. He made a profession of religion at the same meeting when his wife did, and afterwards held the office of Deacon in the Church for thirty years.— For over fifty-five years they held their Christian professions to their death.— They resided in Fitchville since the fall of 1826, and none were more esteemed there than Deacon Green and his pious wife.

Ebenezer Jones died in Peru, June 18, 1872, aged 75 years.

Warren Reynolds died in Fitchville, in November, 1873, aged 74 years. He was a native of Connecticut, and came to Fitchville in 1835.

Susan Wyatt died at Norwalk, December 23, 1873, aged 50 years. She was one of the oldest residents of that city, and was born there.

Edward J. Bunce died at Wakeman, Huron County, May 8, 1873, aged 52 years. He was an old resident and well known merchant of that place, having come there forty-six years ago, he then being only six years old. He was always looked up to as a public spirited man, having held the office of Justice of the Peace for sixteen years, and given universal satisfaction. He was postmaster for several years, and sold goods in Wakeman for over twenty years. His last sickness was very short, although his health for several years had been poor, he being afflicted with asthma until a few weeks before, when it left him, pneumonia setting in which terminated in his death. He left a wife and five

daughters to mourn the loss of a kind husband and loving father, who have the sympathies of a wide circle of friends.

We publish in this number of the *Pioneer* some incidents in the early settlement of Wakeman, written by Mr. Bunce a short time before his death.

Abel F. Eaton died at Fitchville, Ohio, March 2, 1873, aged 84 years. He was a native of New Hampshire, but came into this country in 1818, and purchased the farm now owned by Henry G. Washburn, in Greenwich township, and moved his family on to it in the summer of 1820; in 1828, he moved into Fitchville, and was a resident there to the time of his death. His funeral services were held in the Baptist Church, of which he had been a member over thirty years.

Barnard Johnson died in Fitchville, March 10, 1873, aged 52 years.

Sophia Francis Sturges, wife of Daniel Sturges, died at Norwalk, Ohio, November 14, 1873, in the 56th year of her age, after a lingering illness of thirteen years. During this long period of bodily suffering, she often experienced intense pain, but she endured all with the patience and resignation of a true Christian. Her father, Nathan Parks, was among the earlier settlers of Milan, Erie County, and she was born there in the hut of an Indian chief, which then stood on the present site of the Presbyterian Church. He erected the first frame house in Milan. She was a lady of intelligence, very benevolent, and greatly esteemed by all who knew her for her social and domestic virtues.

Samuel Pennewell died at the residence of his son Judge C. E. Pennewell, in Norwalk, March 9, 1873, aged 75 years. Born in Elkton, Cecil County, Maryland, in the year 1797, the deceased, with his father's family, at the age of six years, removed to Ohio, then an almost unbroken wilderness, and settled in Canton, Stark County, where he grew to manhood. In 1821, he was married to Miss Louisa Cake, of Canton, a pious and exemplary lady, who preceded him to the eternal world about six years ago. In 1822, he removed to Mansfield, remaining two years, when he took up his residence in Sandusky City for seven years, coming to Norwalk in 1831, where he has since resided. For many years he held the office of magistrate in Norwalk, making one of the most efficient Justices that ever filled that position there, and indeed in all places of public trust in which he was placed, he did his duty honestly and faithfully and to the general satisfaction of our citizens. A man of sterling integrity, no consideration of policy could swerve him a hair's breadth from what he considered *right* in public or private acts. In 1821, he experienced religion and joined the Methodist Church, and for fifty-two years was a faithful and consistent christian, for more than forty years holding an official position in the society there.

Alexander Porter died at New London, November 21, 1873, aged 61 years. He was a lawyer of ability, was twice elected Mayor of New London village, and three times Justice of the Peace in that township, and was Postmaster in 1870 and 1871, besides filling other local offices in the neighborhood and Church there. He was admitted to the bar in Ashland County, in 1852, and was elected Prosecuting Attorney of that County. He removed to New London in 1858, and continued his law practice in Huron, Ashland and other Counties. He was very greatly esteemed for his upright character and kindness of heart. His daughter and only surviving child is a

graduate of Delaware Female College.—He was a zealous friend of education and every good cause.

Lester Clark died in Norwalk, January 31, 1874, aged 77 years. Mr. and Mrs. Clark were among the early pioneers of Huron County, having removed hither from Chenango County, N. Y., in 1816, locating in Bronson township, where they resided until 1830, when they came to Norwalk.

Joseph M. Farr died in Norwalk, May 31, 1873, in the 63d year of his age. He was born in Manlius, Onondaga County, New York, October 15, 1810. While yet a child he removed with his father to Norwich, in the same State, where he learned the trade of printing. After learning his trade he worked a few months in New York City as compositor on the old Courier and Enquirer. At the age of nineteen he became editor of a paper at Greene, Chenango County, but left shortly after to take charge of the Journal, published at Lowville, Lewis County. The spring of 1835 found him at New York again, without any definite plans, and it was just at this time that he met the late Samuel L. Hatch, an old friend and fellow-compositor. The latter had been invited by a number of citizens of Norwalk to come to that place and start a Democratic paper, and the two decided to go into partnership and start the paper at once. Procuring an outfit, they came to Norwalk in July, and on the 20th of August, 1835, the first number of the Experiment was issued by Hatch & Farr. After a few years, Mr. Farr became sole proprietor of the paper, finally disposing of it in the spring of 1854 to Redfield & Rule. Mr. Farr was interested in the Gas Works at Norwalk, from their first inception, and for the last twelve years of his life was the Secretary and Superintendent of the Company. In politics he was always a Democrat, and by that party was elected delegate from Huron and Erie Counties to the Constitutional Convention of 1850–51. In the labors of that Convention he took an active part and performed his duties to the satisfaction of his constituents. All through the war he was an outspoken War Democrat, and was appointed by the Governor one of the Military Committee of this County. After the war he took no active interest in politics.

He died of quick consumption. The Court of Common Pleas adjourned on the afternoon of his funeral, as a token of respect to his memory. He made a profession of religion before his death.

Esther Clark, wife of Lester Clark, died in Norwalk, April 14, 1873, aged 74 years.

John Fox died in Norwalk, January 22, 1874, aged 82 years.

A. C. Colgrove, of Plymouth, Huron County, died September 19, 1874, aged 72 years, in consequence of injuries received by a railroad collision on the Pennsylvania Central Railroad. He was an old citizen of the County, and well known among the farmers, having been engaged for many years in the cattle trade. His remains were taken to Schuyler County, New York, his native County, for interment.

Edwin Woodruff died in Norwalk, January 31, 1874, aged 75 years.

Philander Austin, formerly of Fitchville, Huron County, and one of the ear-

ly Pioneers of the Firelands, died at Strawberry Point, Clayton County, Iowa, January 25, 1874, in his 73d year. He was a zealous Christian, whose life was a record of good works.

Ann Smith died at the residence of her son-in-law, T. R. Strong, Esq., in Norwalk, Ohio, March 14, 1874, in the 76th year of her age. She was one of the oldest settlers there, and has left behind a memory endeared to many by her deeds of kindness. She was married in Albany, N. Y., in 1814, and removed to Norwalk in 1835, where she lived 39 years.

Isaac Frayer died in Hartland, Huron County, Ohio, where he had resided over forty years, March 18, 1874, aged 82 years, 5 months. He was born in Greene County, N. Y., and removed to the Firelands in 1830.

Lucy Kingsbury, wife of J. Kingsbury, died in Peru, Huron County, March 25, 1874, in her 55th year. She removed with her parents, Abijah and Polly Peck, to the Firelands in 1833, where she lived over forty-one years the life of a sincere Christian and an exemplary wife and mother.

Xenophon Phillips, M. D., died at Berlin Heights, June 16, 1874, in calm and peaceful resignation, after a protracted illness of years' duration, aged 60 years, 10 months and 15 days. The deceased was a son of Elder Joshua Phillips, was born in Lima, Livingston Co., N. Y., August 1, 1813, and came to the Firelands with his parents in the fall of 1817, and was a younger brother of the honored and esteemed President of this Society.

His early days were spent amid the hardships and privations of pioneer life. He, however, acquired a good English education; taught school some, graduated M. D. at Worthington Medical College; studied medicine and practiced, at the Heights, his profession successfully fifteen years. Finding the strain of responsibility too much for his very sensitive and nervous temperament, it giving him no rest, he retired from his practice and became a most laborious and enthusiastic student of science. His keen, inquiring intellect reveled in communion with the ancient and modern philosophers. The German metaphysicians, the theological disquisitions of an Edwards, a Calvin or Spurgeon, the Beechers, in short, whatever could be had was eagerly devoured, doubtless to the detriment of his worldly affairs; and his close application to reading no doubt contributed to the many years of failing health which closed his life. When his daughters remonstrated with him for thus injuring his health, he would reply, "Why, dear children, it is my life; I could n't live without it. The inner satisfaction I experience from it overbalances all other considerations."

His was an intense thirst for knowledge which refused to be satisfied. The fountains from which he drew were so deep and varied, that there was little time left for applying his acquisitions to practical uses. He was much the most learned citizen of our place—a walking Encyclopædia—of a most astute and discriminating mind, and yet scarcely finding time to strike balances and decide among so many conflicting arguments, which were the better.

His nervous and sensitive nature could not endure the strain of medical practice. An accident which resulted in rendering his beloved wife a cripple for life, so disturbed his nerves that he could scarce drive a horse afterwards. The little misunderstandings which most people scarcely notice, gave him intense pain and anxiety. He never sought public position nor political advancement, tho'

always keenly alive to the public welfare and the questions arising therefrom.—His habit of investigating all questions from the standpoint of right and justice, utterly incapacitated him from the power of divorcing his religion from his politics, and possibly prevented him from endorsing the vicarious portion of the orthodox creed. His was the Crocketian maxim, "Be sure you are right and then go ahead." He took a great interest in our Society, and the Firelands *Pioneer* has been much enriched by the contributions of his pen. He was a most conscientious observer of truth in all his statements, and was ever solicitous to make corrections whenever he found he had committed an error of any kind. He was a true gentleman, ever anxious to make people happy and exhibiting those amiable traits which the world over constitute true gentility, and which we are prone to ascribe to Christian charity and civilization.

He married in 1838, Betsy, daughter of the late Hon. Almon Ruggles, original surveyor of the Firelands, and has three daughters, Emily, a successful music teacher; Mary, wife of Melvin Stone, of Vermillion; and Cora—an affectionate triad of sisters, two sons and one daughter having died years ago. His wife, whom he nursed so tenderly for many years, and is almost helpless, survives to mourn his absence yet a little longer;—sustained by the affectionate care of her daughters and the love and sympathy of a large circle of relatives and friends.

Dr. Phillips was an affectionate husband and parent; a kind and obliging neighbor; a good citizen. He was reverential and decorous in his allusions to the Deity, and possessed much of what —when speaking of other good men, but not strictly orthodox—he denominated *unconscious religion*. He believed in God and that he could trust in Him; that He must be good and just to all His children; and he believed also in the teachings of Jesus, though not a member of any church.

As he came near the end, and saw the grim messenger slowly but surely approaching, he was more and more solicitous for the future comfort of his family, and devoted more of his time to financial affairs, with good success.

The funeral services were held at his mansion on the Heights, and were conducted by Rev. T. B. Forbush, Unitarian, of Cleveland, and participated in by a large assemblage of his relatives, friends and sympathizers with the bereaved family. The day was serenely beautiful, the scenery delightful, and many rejoiced that day in the assurance the eloquent preacher gave that our brother and friend had made the passage safely to a far happier and more delightful clime and scenery, where sickness and sighing can never enter; "where the wicked cease from troubling, and the weary are at rest."

Mrs. Shadrach Conklin died in Fitchville, April 1, 1874, aged 77 years. She had been a resident of that township for thirty years.

Mrs. Abijah Roberts died at the residence of her son-in-law, Mr. D. M. Pratt, in Fitchville, April 30, 1874, aged 85 years. She had lived in that township about forty years, and was a professor of the Christian religion over sixty years.

John Fairchild Dewey died at Norwalk, April 30, 1874, aged 57 years.—He was born in Great Barrington, Berkshire County, Massachusetts, April 28, 1817. From his earliest manhood he took more than ordinary interest in politics, and was accustomed to contribute to the columns of the local paper, especially during exciting campaigns. In politics he was a Whig, and in 1844 he was appointed a delegate to the national convention of his party at Philadelphia, where Henry Clay was nominated for the Presidency. In the spring of 1845, he

came west, and, having relatives in Northern Ohio, he finally decided to settle in Norwalk. In June of the same year, in connection with his cousin, John F. Wooster, now of Elyria, he opened a drug store, and in that business he remained until within the last four or five years. On the 22d of September following, he was married at Wellington to Ann Eliza Wolcott, who survives him. He served one term as Treasurer of Huron County, in 1859–60. When the present internal revenue system was inaugurated he was appointed the first Collector in this District by President Lincoln, holding the office from March 4, 1863, until he was removed by President Johnson in the fall of 1866.

Some two years or more before his death, Mr. Dewey became converted to the principles of Christianity, and with most of his family, was confirmed a member of the Episcopal Church by Bishop Bedell. Although he was a great sufferer, with a Cancer, he bore his sufferings, which would have long before brought down a man of less energy and force of will, with rare fortitude and patience.—The deceased was a man of great energy and activity.

His funeral was attended by the Odd Fellows, of which order he had been a member many years, and a large concourse of citizens.

Rev. H. H. Morrell, pastor of the Episcopal Church in Norwalk, in a communication to the Reflector, says:

Of his former history it is not necessary for me to speak. But of that later history of suffering and trial I was permitted to know something through the warm personal friendship that existed between us and the confidence which he kindly reposed in me. I never knew any one more sincere in his religious convictions and who yielded himself more entirely to the will of his Heavenly Father.

One of the most beautiful and solemn services I ever witnessed was on the Sunday when he stood with his whole family around the chancel of St. Paul's Church, and with them dedicated himself to God in public baptism. During the winter of the great religious interest in Norwalk, he was deeply interested in the work, so much so that he could scarcely talk of anything else, and often spoke of the delight it afforded him to witness such harmonious and Christian union among the different churches. He also took a deep interest in the recent temperance movement, and was one of the first to suggest in reference to the spring elections that all good men, irrespective of party, should unite upon a temperance ticket.

He was a true Christian, for he loved all Christian people. He loved the house of God and the place of prayer. He attended the public services and the social prayer-meeting as long as it was possible for him to do so, and his effort and self-denial in this respect were an example to many who do not seem to appreciate these advantages.

And when no longer able to attend, he enjoyed having religious services at his house whenever he could. Never can I forget the solemn and impressive services held by his request at his house on the afternoon of Sunday, April 19, when some twenty or more of his Christian friends of the different churches, upon his invitation, united with him in the solemn services of the Lord's Supper.

His is another testimony to the reality of the Christian religion to sustain the heart in the darkest hour. It was this alone that sustained him through all that long and bitter trial—a simple faith in Christ as his personal Saviour. He entirely renounced all dependence upon his own righteousness, and trusted only in the merit of Christ. On one of the last occasions in which I enjoyed an interview with him, he wrote the following upon a piece of paper, which I have carefully preserved:

"May I ask an interest in your pray-
'ers, that I may be kept faithful unto
"the end, which I feel cannot be far in
"the future? My constant prayer to my
"Heavenly Father is, that I may be pa-
"tient under the great affliction which is

"upon me. At times I feel weak and "doubtful of my acceptance with God, "and at others I feel strong in my faith "in the blessed Saviour, and that my "feet are firmly placed on the Rock of "Ages."

Our loss is his eternal gain. May the "God of all comfort" sustain those to whom this sorrow comes the nearest.

Ambrose Smith died in Olena, Huron County, May 18, 1874, aged 87 years.—He was formerly a practicing physician. and resided about forty years in the Firelands.

Burr Keeler died in North Fairfield, Huron County, June 19, 1874, in his 69th year. He was for forty-eight years a member of the Congregational Church, and his daily life bore witness of the genuineness of his piety.

Joseph Travis died in Norwalk, June 3, 1874, in his 79th year.

Charles Russell died at Sandusky City, June 3, 1874, aged 66 years. The Sandusky Register gives the following editorial obituary:

After a busy life, nearly approximating the allotted three score years and ten, he died honored and beloved by all who knew him, genial and liberal to a fault, a perfect gentleman and a true friend, possessing all the requirements which led to business success.

Mr. Russell leaves a widow and two daughters, Mary L. and Bethiah E. Russell. The former was married on the 19th of March, 1857, to Mr. Charles H. Botsford, of Florence, the latter on the 4th of November, of the same year, to Mr. Francis B. Case, of Norwalk. Both marriages took place in Florence township, Erie County, Ohio.

Charles Russell was born on the 14th of May, 1808, at Charleston, Middlesex County, Massachusetts, near the place where now stands the Bunker Hill monument. Soon after the death of his father, Mrs. Russell removed to Lexington County, New York, accompanied by her two sons, Alcott and the subject of this notice. Their stay, however, was only temporary, for on the 22d of February, 1817, they arrived in New London, Huron County, Ohio, where Mrs. Russell lived until her death. Mr. Russell learned the furrier and currier trade, and soon went to Birmingham, Erie County, Ohio, and worked at his trade. He married Miss Arvilla Higgins, October 3d, 1830, and in 1839, purchased the hotel then located on the east side of the Vermillion river, the business of which he conducted until 1842, when he sold out and bought the hotel on the west side of the river.—Both of these buildings have since been destroyed by fire. He continued to conduct the business of the hotel until 1858, when he and his family removed to Defiance, Ohio, at which place he opened the Russell House, which is still known by that name. In 1863, he went to Cleveland and took the Forest City Hotel, which, during his manuagement, was favorably known as the Russell House. It was there that he formed a large acquaintance with the traveling public, and the reputation of the old Forest City suffered nothing under his management. In 1869 Mr. Russell, his wife and their surviving son (since deceased) removed to Tennessee, intending to retire from active business, but the industrious habits formed in early boyhood clung to him in his advancing years, and with the memories of the past, the friends of his youth, and the attraction which hovered over the place where he had lived so long, he returned, and on the 18th of September, 1871, he leased the Lake House in this city. Mr. Russell was a representative hotel man, unostentatious, obliging and civil, he invariably retained his patronage, and at

the time of his death the Lake House was in a more flourishing condition than ever before during its history.

His remains were consigned to the family vault at Birmingham, to the beautifying of which and its monument he gave the last labor of his life.

Lemuel B. Pierce died at his residence in Wakeman, Huron County, August 17, 1874, aged 66 years, 11 months. Mr. Pierce was born at Southbury, Connecticut, Sept. 17, 1807, and was the eldest son of Capt. Amial Pierce, who was one of the seven who first purchased land for settlement in the township; and was the second family to arrive therein, on the 11th day of June, 1817—Augustin Canfield and family having arrived a few days earlier.

The subject of this sketch was therefore introduced to the hardships and privations incident to a new settlement in the dense beech woods of Wakeman, at the tender age of ten years; and that signified hard work, rough if not hard fare, want of educational and social privileges, so necessary to youth of that age. The settlement, however, was made up of stirring, energetic and thrifty New England stock, and soon developed the primary elements of literary and religious culture, and Lemuel grew up an industrious, moral and useful citizen. He was married to Miss Eunice Burr, youngest daughter of John Burr, of Florence, Sept. 14, 1831, who was in every respect a most estimable woman. She bore him five children, Amelia and Elbert, deceased, and William, Julia and Frankie, who are married and worthy members of society. His wife died November 3, 1866, and his second marriage to Miss Mariette Hyde, of Wakeman, took place Nov. 27, 1867, both being productive of much happiness. He was an enterprising and successful farmer and stock raiser, made large improvements and acquired an independence. His family was brought up to industrious and frugal habits and continues therein.

Mr. Pierce was a kind and obliging neighbor, maintained a liberal and generous hospitality, and was a most devoted and affectionate husband and parent, an honest and patriotic citizen, not without faults—had he been he would have been more than human—but in the main he was all we have above stated, and a generous and sympathizing community will long cherish his memory.

The funeral services were held in the Congregational Church and were very ably and impressively conducted by his beloved pastor, Rev. Mr. Payne. The attendance was large of relatives and friends and a sympathizing public, and many old Pioneers who had witnessed his early, earnest and successful struggles with nature in a new country, and had shared its toils, privations and victories together with him.

Mrs. Mary F. C. Worcester, wife of Hon. Samuel T. Worcester, died at Nashua, New Hampshire, April 29, 1874, aged 72 years. Her maiden name was Mary F. C. Wales. She was born in Stoughton, Massachusetts, and for many years was a teacher in the Female Seminary at Newton, and afterward at Charlestown, Massachusetts, which latter place she left upon her marriage in 1835.—From 1835 to 1867 she resided in Norwalk, Ohio.

The Nashua Telegraph says: In 1867, Mr. Worcester decided to return and spend the remainder of his life near the scenes of his childhood, and since that time they have lived in Nashua. During the war she performed heroic labor in the Sanitary Commission in Ohio, her old home, where she was foremost in all good works. On her last year's visit to the West, she was recognized as a leader by her old associates, and in this community she was well known from her connection with the Ladies' Union Lecture Club, an association that owes its remarkable success to her unwearied labor and rare executive ability. She had an extensive

and pleasant acquaintance with lecturers and literary people, and her house was ever open for their reception and entertainment. An indefatigable worker in every cause she espoused, capable in business transactions, connected with all charity enterprises, a kind and considerate neighbor, she has filled the measure of her allotted pilgrimage to the world's benefit, and passes away leaving a memory to be respected and an example to be emulated by all who would make the world wiser and better. Her bereaved husband will have the hearty sympathy of many friends in his deep affliction.

Hon. S. T. Worcester is in receipt of the following kind letter from Henry Ward Beecher, and although it was not intended for publication he has kindly allowed us to copy it for the benefit of the many friends of Mrs. Worcester, who will be gratified to read it:

BROOKLYN, N. Y., May 1, 1874.

MY DEAR SIR:—I see in the papers the tidings of Mrs. Worcester's death, and hasten to express my profound sympathy with you in your great loss. Tho' my acquaintance was brief, yet her letters prepared me to be greatly pleased, and my visit more than realized my anticipation. I found her an eminent and admirable specimen of a former day, refined, learned without pedantry, efficient and yet very quiet, a lady in very thought and feeling and not merely in manners. To have lived so many years with such an one should be a consolation by retrospect. To live without her will be only easier for you to fulfill the few remaining years and be willing to let go and follow after.

I am, dear sir, in profound sympathy, very truly yours,

HENRY WARD BEECHER.

Samuel T. Worcester, Esq., Nashua, New Hampshire.

A writer in the Norwalk Reflector adds the following to the above notices:

The older residents of Norwalk can best bear witness to all that is here said of the eminent usefulness of this lady while residing here. It is entirely safe to say that in the history of Norwalk will be found the case of no other lady who accomplished as much as she for the social, moral and intellectual improvement of the community. Many persons of both sexes, now far advanced in life, will never forget how she signalized her early residence here by the organization of a Reading Circle, composed of young people, who met statedly at her residence for mental and social culture, and many of whom were first introduced to society and enjoyed advantages which contributed largely to their subsequent success in life. This is mentioned only as a sample of the ways and means which this self-denying woman, throughout her long residence here, employed for the good of her neighbors. To specify even the prominent cases, would occupy too much of your space. Suffice it to say here, that her active mind seems ever to have been on the alert for opportunities for serving others; while her genius, so prolific in resources, was seldom lacking in methods and plans of execution.

It is due to Judge Worcester to say here that in all these efforts of Mrs. W., she had his ready and hearty co-operation, to which valuable aid she was largely indebted for her eminent success.—Hence, it is difficult separately to estimate the valuable services of either of them, and we are sure that neither would desire such division to be made. Both will ever be remembered with gratitude, not by the people of Norwalk only, but by many persons elsewhere.

The Reflector says:

It were useless for us to recount to our citizens the facts of her long and useful life. For thirty-two years she went in and out among us, always foremost in every good work, always ready to help in every good cause. Her labors here during the war in the Aid Society and Alert Club will especially be remembered. In his bereavement Judge Worcester has the heartiest sympathy of innumerable friends.

The annexed testimonial was adopted and published by the ladies of Norwalk:

WHEREAS, Our Heavenly Father in wisdom has seen fit to call from her labor one with whom we have had such pleasant association in years past; and

WHEREAS, The thirty years of life spent in our midst was full of ceaseless and well-directed activity for the elevation, prosperity and happiness of those about her; therefore,

Resolved, That we will cherish the memory of her counsel, ever leading us to desire the greatest good of society and of the world.

Resolved, That the members of the Worcester Society, formed and fostered by her care, remember with gratitude the gifts of time, influence, and counsel, by which that class of young people were fitted to fill their places in life and in society with honor and efficiency.

Resolved, That her strong intellectual faculties, her kind heart, her ample culture, firmness of purpose, energy and perseverance, her ability to devise and will to execute, made her ever an acknowledged leader in every good word and work.

Resolved, That as pupils, the good done cannot be measured in time. Eternity alone will reveal the influence she exerted upon the minds of the scholars placed under her charge and fitted by her to fill their places in their homes and in society with the greatest efficiency, teaching them not to live for self alone but to do good in the world.

Resolved, That the members of the old Aid Society and the Alert Club acknowledge their indebtedness to her capacity to direct, which gave such efficiency to their effort for the relief of the suffering in our army; and that they hold in affectionate remembrance her aid in all their work.

Resolved, That we each find that we have lost a warm personal friend, and that her place in the circle of old friends and pupils cannot again be filled.

Mrs. Mathew Keller, the mother of a large family, and one of the earliest German settlers in Peru, died in that township, August 1, 1874, aged 60 years. in consequence, as supposed, of her clothes taking fire while she was endeavoring to extinguish the flames in a field, where her body was found burned to a crisp.

Burgur Mott died at the residence of his son-in-law, Henry Stringham, at North Fairfield, Huron County, May 4, 1874, aged 89 years. He moved into New Haven township in 1830, where he resided until near his death. He was familiarly known as Father Mott, and was from early life an esteemed and useful member of the Society of Friends.

Mrs. Maria Thatcher, wife of the late John P. Thatcher, died at the residence of her daughter, Mrs. H. W. Owen, in North Fairfield, Huron County, May 26, 1874, aged 76 years.

Mrs. Gamaliel Stanford died in Norwalk, Huron County, at the residence of her son, June 3, 1874, in the 78th year of her age.

Rev. Charles F. Lewis died at Wakeman, Huron County, Sept. 14, 1874, of quick consumption, aged 56 years. He became Rector of St. John's Episcopal Church, in that place, thirteen years before, and also had pastoral charge of a Church in Milan. About three years before his death he went to Connecticut, where he had charge of a Church near New Haven, and in the last year of his life preached in the diocese of Pittsburg, Pennsylvania. For some time he held the office of Postmaster at Wakeman.—As a citizen, pastor, and in all the relations of life, he was greatly esteemed.—He was the eldest son of the late venerable Pioneer, Samuel B. Lewis, and was

one of the first white children born in Norwalk township, Huron County, Ohio.

James O. Merrifield, a son of Joseph and Hannah (Estey) Merrifield, was born in Leicester, Addison County, Vermont, May 1, 1799, and died in the village of New London, Ohio, June 13, 1874, aged 75 years, 1 month and 8 days. James lived with his father's family in Vermont till 1810, then again in Seneca County, New York, till 1812, and in Brighton, New York, till 1817, when they came to Ohio. His father had preceded a portion of his family a few months, long enough to erect the third (log) house in what are now the limits of the village of New London, when he came west with his mother, younger brothers and sisters, arriving December 22, 1817.

The old stock of Merrifields becomes extinct (or have moved away) by the death of this one, he being the last of the first settlers. He lived and died on the same lot on which his father settled. He married Miss Ursula Keyes, in March, 1822, by whom he raised quite a numerous family. She died in 1858, and he never remarried. In the year 1818, he assisted in organizing the first and present Baptist Church of our place. He was a kind hearted parent, an honorable citizen, and diligent farmer. His place among the few remaining Pioneers cannot be filled.

Seba Mather died in Greenfield, Aug. 20, 1874, aged 88 years and 4 months.—He and his wife, Cynthia Mather, with his father and mother, Mr. and Mrs. Erastus Mather, and his brother, Horace Mather, and wife, moved together from Marlboro, Windham County, Vermont, in the summer of 1815, traveling in wagons, and being six weeks on their journey, arriving in Greenfield in August.—There the three families located on a large tract of land south of the Center.—Seba Mather opened the first public house in the township, in a log building about a third of a mile south of the Center, on the New Haven road, and kept it a few years, until about 1820, when one was opened at the Center. He then discontinued his tavern, and erected a grist and saw mill and a fulling mill on the Huron river, about three-fourths of a mile east of the Center, on the Fairfield road.—The grist mill was small, with one run of stone, and was operated but a few years, when he ceased that and enlarged his fulling mill. This was the only one in a number of Counties, and farmers came from quite a distance with their wool, staying over night to have some of it carded to take back. In this he did a prosperous business until 1849, when he sold it to the Ellenwood Brothers, and retired to his farm where he resided until his death. His wife died in January, 1864, and his father, mother, and brother Horace, also died before him. There were very few families in the township when Seba Mather came. He helped to found the first Church, under the preaching of Rev. Alvin Coe, at the Center, and was Deacon of it until his death. He put up the first framed building in the township, in 1820, a barn yet standing on the farm now owned by Nathan Beers.—He was persevering, patient, industrious, and honest, and in his quiet labors and Christian virtues was a fair example of the worthy Pioneers who laid the moral and religious, as well as the material, basis of our civilization.

Jacob Burdue died in Sherwood, Branch County, Michigan, August 15, 1874, in the 50th year of his age. He was born in Townsend, Huron County, where his relatives now live.

Sarah Washburn died at the residence of Wm. Sutton, in Greenwich, August 8, 1874, aged 80 years.

William Humphrey died at Townsend, Huron County, September 23, 1874, aged 62 years. He was fatally injured by a fall, while engaged in making some repairs on his dwelling. The scaffolding gave way, precipitating him to the ground, a distance of about sixteen feet. He struck on his head, fracturing his skull and otherwise injuring him. He died within a few hours. He and his brother, Dudley S. Humphrey, were the two wealthiest citizens of that township, owning nearly twenty-five hundred acres of land there. He had resided in Townsend over 24 years, and was a man of much business energy and success.

Edward B. Hadley died at Norwalk, August 19, 1874, aged 60 years.

O. P. Woodward died at Norwalk, August 29, 1874, aged 58 years.

Mrs. Hannah Graves died at the residence of her son, J. R. Graves, in Norwalk, January 31, 1874, in the 92d year of her age.

Catharine Sutton, relict of Levi Sutton, Sr., died at the residence of her son, Levi Sutton, in Sherman, August 22, 1874, in the 79th year of her age. She and her husband settled in Lyme township in 1814.

Milton Slater died in Norwalk, January 3, 1874, in the 61st year of his age.

Perry G. Beckwith died in Bronson, March 15, 1874, aged 78 years.

Moses Park Brewster died at Toledo, March 7, 1873, aged 54 years. He was born in Norwich, Connecticut, March 8, 1819. He removed to Norwalk at the age of sixteen years, with his brother, the late William Brewster, and resided there until 1871, when he removed to Toledo. Mr. Brewster was esteemed by his neighbors as a warm hearted, genial and honorable man, by his family as a kind and affectionate husband and father. He leaves a wife and two sons, Charles F. Brewster, of Kent, Ohio, and E. P. Brewster, of Cincinnati, Ohio.

During the war of the Rebellion, he was a member of Company D, 55th O. V. V. I., and his death adds another name to the rapidly increasing role of our departed patriots.

Jeduthan R. Graves died at Norwalk, September 15, 1874, in the 72d year of his age. He had been a resident of Norwalk about 40 years.

Mrs. Fannie B. Severance died in Cleveland, August 1, 1874, aged 35.—She was born in Norwalk, was a sister of Dr. David D. Benedict, of that place, and grand-daughter of Platt Benedict, and was very much esteemed by all who knew her.

Edward F. Smith, formerly of Norwalk, died in Medora, Ill., February 22, 1874, aged 52 years.

Julia Johnson died in Peru, January 14, 1874, aged 81 years. She was the mother of Luther Johnson, of Peru, and Mrs. Fredus Simmons, of Norwalk. She came to Huron County fifty years ago, and lived on the same farm from that time until she died.

Mrs. Permelia Allen died in Townsend, Sandusky County, Ohio, at the residence of C. G. Sanford, Esq., on September 18, 1874, aged 79 years, 2 months and 24 days. She was born June 24, 1795, in Canterbury Township, Windham County, Connecticut, where her parents continued to live for a couple of years, when they moved into the State of New York and located near Auburn. From this place she emigrated in the fall of 1809, moving to Ohio, locating near Huron, in Erie County. In the same year the family was compelled to leave on account of the Indians, going to Cleveland. In February, 1810, the family returned to their former home near Huron, where she was married in 1814, during which year twenty families went to Vermillion several times to avoid the cruelty of the Indians, crossing the Huron river on a sand bar near its mouth. June 12, 1827, she was married again, and on the 16th of the same month moved from Huron to Riley Township, Sandusky County, where she lived for most of the time since, the latter part of her life being spent in Townsend Township.

Mrs. Electa Bassett died in Norwalk, April 26, 1874, aged 62 years.

Dr. D. C. McConoughey died in Milan, January 15, 1874, aged 56 years.

Addison Ingalls died in Milan, January 14, 1874, aged 67 years.

Mary Ann Wilson, relict of Jacob Wilson, died in Weston, Lenawee Co., Michigan, in the 72d year of her age.—She had resided in Norwalk forty-eight years, in a large circle of relatives and friends, and her remains were brought there for interment.

E. H. Gibbs died at Norwalk, March 26, 1873, aged 61 years. He was found dead in his bed, probably of heart disease, and his appearance indicated no struggle or pain. He was one of the first merchants of Milan, and at his death resided in Norwalk, where he was universally respected.

Mrs. Anna Smith, relict of Willis Smith, died in Greenwich, February 24, 1874, aged 82 years.

Jonas Leonard died in Bronson, March 14, 1874, aged 76 years. He was one of the earliest pioneers in that part of the County.

Conrad Linder died in Peru, June 13, 1874, aged 90 years, 9 months and 11 days.

Azel Mead died at the residence of his son, George G. Mead, in Mason, Michigan, July 26, 1874, aged 86 years and 9 months. He was born in the State of New York, Westchester County, where he resided until twenty-five years of age. The war of 1812 having been declared between England and America, he joined his fortunes with other loyal Americans and embarked on a privateersman which made many prizes of the enemy's ships. Finally, encountering a severe storm, he was shipwrecked off the coast of Norway. After several days of almost unheard of suffering, one man having died from cold, he and his companions were driven onto one of the Orkney Islands, and were there taken prisoners by the British and confined on His Majesty's prison ship, where he remained one year, suffering all the privations and hardships that usually befel those opposed to the crown.

At the expiration of one year, he with

his comrades was transferred to Dartmoor prison, a priron long to be remembered in the annals of American history for its loathsomeness and the cruelty practiced there. During his imprisonment, the prisoners were on the point of starvation, when on one occasion they became desperate and revolted, and marched en masse to the gates and demanded bread, threatening to force the prison walls.—They were promised a full supply if they would remain quiet until night; and they marched back to their cells and remained quiet all day and got their full supply.—The officers in charge of the prison were alarmed at this state of things, and had reinforcements come; and to show their courage and intimidate those Americans when they were mustered out in the morning, they fired a volley among them, killing and wounding a great number.—Finally, peace having been declared, the prisoners were released, and Mr. Mead returned home, where he became acquainted with and married Miss Hannah Graham.

From Westchester County he went to New York City, where he resided several years. From thence he removed to Philadelphia, and was engaged in business several years longer. In 1834, he removed to Huron County, Ohio, where he resided until he went to Michigan four years ago.

Mr. Mead united with the Methodist Church in 1835, and has always been an active and efficient member. His Christian walk and conversation have been meek and lowly, showing the love of the Master in his heart, and his children call him blessed.

George Rumsey died in Norwalk, March 8, 1873, in the 73d year of his age.

Samuel B. Caldwell.—The Sandusky Register furnishes the following biographical notice of this venerable Pioneer:

He was born in Cambridge, Washington County, New York, on the 14th of May, 1792. He enjoyed the advantages of the academic schools of that section, and was fitted for active mercantile business. When the war of 1812 was declared, he volunteered and took part in the battle of Plattsburg, and in the battles of Lake Champlain. On the 28th of May, 1815, he was married to Mary S. Cady, of Granville, Washington County, a lady of marked intelligence and education. In 1817, in company with the late Elutheros Cooke and family, he came to the West. The two families first settled in Indiana, where they remained but a few months, when both families settled at Bloomingville, in this County. Mr. Caldwell there entered into mercantile copartnership with Charles F. Drake, since long known as Col. Drake, lighthouse keeper on Green Island, and now a resident of the Peninsula. The business of the firm did not prosper. The country was new and unsettled, the few people then in this portion of the country were poor. They, however, continued to deal in merchandise until their means were exhausted, when, in October, 1825, the death of his wife decided him to become a resident of this city. At that time the hotel now known as Scott's American was known as the Steamboat Hotel, and was presided over by Mr. Boalt, the father of the present Mrs. Caldwell, the late C. L. Boalt and John M. Boalt, still a resident of this city.—Mr. Caldwell became a boarder at the old Steamboat, and there formed the acquaintance of, and in February, 1827, was married to, Susan Boalt, who survives him. After their marriage they removed to Bloomingville, but in 1829 returned to this city where they have continued to reside without intermission. For several years the Judge and his wife lived in a comfortable house which he built on the Bay shore in the Western Liberties. In 1835, he built the stone house now standing next north of the

Presbyterian Church, and for quite a number of years occupied it as his family residence. Subsequently he purchased the present family residence which was built by Rice Harper, Esq., and for 20 years the Judge and his wife dispensed hospitality to their friends and neighbors from the old mansion in which he died. Judge Caldwell was a man of unusual native ability, and had the advantages of a thorough English academic education. He was devoted to books, spending much time in reading, and was an elegant and graphic writer, keeping up to the time of his last illness an extensive correspondence. He stored his mind with useful and varied information which he could command with facility as occasion required. He possessed a native modesty that prompted him to shun rather than court notoriety, and led him to prefer the quiet comforts of domestic life to the cares and perplexities of office. He was, however, frequently selected to fill important public positions, having served as magistrate, mayor of the city, and for a number of years the responsible position of Associate Judge, to which he was appointed by the Legislature under the old constitution.

Alanson Cleveland died in Norwalk on the 5th of October, 1871, aged 65 years, 2 months and 8 days. He moved to this State from New York, in 1836, and lived on the farm where he died since 1841.

Judge William Tilden, of Cincinnati, died at Sandusky City, in December, 1873, aged 39 years. He was a native of Norwalk, and was the youngest son of the late Dr. Daniel Tilden, who resided in Norwalk some twenty-eight or thirty years ago, removing hence to Sandusky. The deceased, on arriving at manhood, read law in the office of the Messrs. Lane, and afterwards located in Cincinnati where he attained a high position in his profession and was elected Probate Judge of Hamilton County. The Bar of Cincinnati held a meeting and passed resolutions in honor of the deceased, which were entered on the records of the Courts and published in the city press.

John P. McArdle died at the residence of his daughter Mrs. W. L. Hamilton, in Republic, Seneca County, Ohio, at ten minutes past 2 o'clock A. M., October 26, 1874, of paralysis, in the 90th year of his age. He was the oldest man in his Township, and probably the oldest practical printer in the country. He was born in the County of Armaugh, Ireland, March 18, 1785, and came with his father's family to this country in May, 1801, and located in Washington County, Pa. Then he began and served four years of an apprenticeship at the printer's trade, after which, he followed that business the greater portion of his life. In 1809, he removed to Marietta, Ohio, dividing the time between there and Zanesville until 1813, when he went to Clinton, Knox County, and in company with Samuel H. Smith began the publication of the Ohio Register. In the winter of 1814–15, they moved the establishment to Mt. Vernon, where he remained with it until 1822, when he went to Wellsburg, Va., and began publishing the Wellsburg Gazette, which he continued until 1826. From there he moved to Norwalk and started the Norwalk Reporter, the first paper ever issued in Huron County, and which he conducted for several years. He took a very active part in all the political issues of the days past and became personally acquainted with many of our great men of the by-gone days.

The Norwalk Experiment says of him:

The many friends of John P. McArdle, in Norwalk, will learn with regret of his death. Mr. McArdle was the pioneer printer of Norwalk, having commenced the publication of the Norwalk Reporter about forty-eight years ago, which was afterwards merged in the Reflector. For many years he carried on a small book-

bindery, near the old Methodist Church, in this village. He was noted for his genial and friendly disposition, and enjoyed largely the respect and esteem of our citizens.

MRS. SUSAN KING.—The Fremont Messenger says:

Mrs. Susan King, aged 104 years, died at the residence of her son, Aleck King, of this city. Mrs. King was a half blood Ottawa Indian. She was born at Monroe, Michigan, and removed from there to Canada. She was taken prisoner at the battle of the Thames, and removed from there to Fort Stephenson. From Fort Stephenson she was taken to Cleveland by boat, and from there sent to Long Point by sail, where she was exchanged. She was a British subject. Previous to her death she had resided with her son for upwards of twenty-five years. She was an old lady highly respected by her many acquaintances. Thus has passed from among us one of the most remarkable women that has ever lived in Ohio.

James Williams, Esq., died at his residence, in Norwalk, Ohio, October 4, 1869, in the 82d year of his age. Thus another of the early pioneers of the Firelands has gone to his rest. Prominently identified with their interests and their history from their earliest settlement, and widely known as a man of ability in his profession, and for his uprightness of character and social qualities, his departure leaves a void amongst us which those who were the most intimately acquainted with him will the most sincerely regret.—Mr. Williams was born in the town of Orange, in the State of New Jersey, in 1787, where he passed his early years and received his education. Early evincing a predilection for the legal profession, he entered the office of his elder brother, Philip Williams, where by diligent study he prepared himself for the practice of his profession, and soon after married a daughter of Maj. Hunt, of Jersey City. Having a strong desire to see the western country, he came on an exploring expedition to the Firelands of Ohio, and was so well pleased with the appearance of the country that he at once determined to make it his future home, and in 1816 moved to Huron County with his family.

Railroads were then an unknown avenue of travel, and water transportation upon the Lakes was dangerous and of doubtful reliability, and journeys from the East were usually performed by the slower but surer method of horses and wagons; and in this way Mr. Williams with his family took up their weary march from New Jersey over the mountains of Pennsylvania by way of Pittsburg to Ohio. Six weeks were occupied with the tedious journey over new and wretched roads and bridgeless streams, until they reached New Haven township, in Huron County, in 1816.

The country about was then one vast wilderness, dotted here and there upon newly opened roads or upon winding trails, by the cabin of some early pioneer. After a temporary pause in New Haven, under the hospitable roof of Caleb Palmer, long since deceased, that he might survey the surroundings and determine the most desirable point to settle, he removed to Milan, then in Huron County—the County Seat having been located a short time previous at Camp Avery, a few miles below Milan, on the Huron river.

The litigating period had not arrived amongst the new settlers, and clients were scarce with the legal profession, and the subject of our notice embarked in merchandizing, in connection with P. R. Hopkins, who was also a lawyer, and who will be well remembered by our early settlers, and David Hinman—but still giving his attention to such legal business as presented itself. But the locality of the County Seat being found in many respects objectionable, it was soon removed to Norwalk, the fourth term of Court being held there in October, 1818. Mr. Williams changed his residence to Nor-

walk on the removal of the County Seat, and was appointed Clerk of the Court.—He was the first Clerk of the Court of Common Pleas and of the Supreme Court of Huron County, after the location of the County Seat at Norwalk, which position he held for six years, until 1824, when he resigned to take the Collectorship of the Port of Sandusky, then called Portland, to which place he changed his residence, but remained there for only a brief period, returning to his former home in Norwalk the following year, when he was appointed Prosecuting Attorney for the County, which position he held for eight years, until 1832, performing the arduous and responsible duties of the office with honor to himself and to the satisfaction of the people.

In politics, Mr. Williams was an ardent Whig and entered heartily and zealously into the party discussions of the day;—and whilst looking upon Slavery as a dark and ominous cloud hanging over the land he could see no measure of relief fraught with so few dangers to our Common Country and promising so peaceful a solution of the perplexing difficulty as in the scheme of Colonization as advocated by its great champion, Henry Clay, and for him he felt the greatest admiration, and his highest political wish was to see this brilliant orator and sound statesman President of the United States; and in 1832 he was elected delegate to the National Convention which placed his favorite statesman before the people as a candidate for that high position. Mr. Williams performed the journey to Baltimore, where the National Convention was held, on horseback.

His standing in his profession was pretty high. At a time when such eminent and able lawyers as the late Governor Wood, Judge Ebenezer Lane, Orris Parish, and Elutheros Cook and many other distinguished advocates were practicing at the bar, he ranked with the first in forensic ability. As an advocate and orator he was rarely equaled and never excelled by any then practicing in this part of Ohio. He was a man of extensive reading and of fine literary taste—enjoying and appreciating the productions of scholarly men and keeping pace with the advancing ideas of the age. He took an especial interest in all those improvements calculated to advance the commercial interests of the world, and in the development of new applications of power and new discoveries in science that have contributed within comparatively a few years so much to the welfare of the human race. The application of steam to propelling vessels, to the locomotive upon our railways, and of electricity in almost annihilating time in its rapid transmission of intelligence, have all been wrought out and put into practical use during his manhood and life, and the contemplation of the fact never failed to awaken his interest and arouse his enthusiasm. He was a man of fine social qualities, and with a keen sense of wit and humor, and few men could give or parry their shafts with more zest or better appreciation, and whether in the heat of debate or in the playful couplet he rarely missed his point or failed in his rejoinder.

But with his advancing years his health became so much impaired from his sedentary life that he was forced to abandon his profession and seek outdoor pursuits, and in 1849 he retired fron the practice and devoted himself to the care of his farm and to commercial business; but in his later years he spent most of his time in the retirement of his home and in the study of his favorite books, at the same time keeping pace with the current literature of the day. His reminiscences of the past were prolific subjects of conversation and pleasure. Coming into the country when it was covered with primeval forests and the Aborigines were far more numerous than the civilized population, and when the means of subsistence had of necessity to be obtained from great distances and by slow and expensive transportation, he saw year by year the steady onward strides of improvement—the forests giving way to cultivated fields, the log cabin giving way to the more comfortable and commodious mansion,

and beautiful and thriving villages springing up all over the West, the corduroy roads of the new country rising into dry and pleasant channels of communication, and the rumbling of heavy trains and the shrill whistle of the locomotive resounding through every section of the country, indicating our intimate connection and rapid inter-communication with the great commercial wants of the country, and bearing to those less favored regions the elements of life and labor and health in rich abundance which a half a century back we purchased and imported at so much labor and expense. This transmutation had been wrought out almost entirely within the period of his residence here, and he had been identified in a greater or less degree with those measures that had tended to this result. His last days were calm and peaceful and such as befitted the close of his long and eventful life. Surrounded by his numerous family—children and grandchildren—with an humble trust and firm faith in his Saviour, he passed away and, like a shock of corn fully ripe, was gathered to his fathers.

Upon learning of the decease of James Williams, the bar of Huron County held a meeting at the office of Franklin Sawyer, Esq., and after organizing by the appointment of a Chairman and Secretary, the following preamble and resolutions were offered by Col. Sawyer and adopted by the bar:

WHEREAS, James Williams, Esq., of this village, deceased this morning at six o'clock, and as he was one of the pioneer members of the bar of this County, therefore, be it

Resolved, By the members of the bar and officers of the Court of said County that, remembering his long association with us, his learning and talents as a lawyer, his acquirements in literature, his estimable qualities as a citizen, and his integrity as a man, we deeply sympathize with his family and friends and the public in this great loss.

Resolved, That as members of the bar and officers of the Court, as a duty we owe our senior and superior, we acknowledge those attainments which placed him at our head as an advocate, unrivalled, as a practitioner, just, and as a counsellor, upright, and commend his life and history to the surviving members of his profession and the public.

Resolved, That a copy of these resolutions be presented to the Court of Common Pleas of this County, with a motion that they be entered on the Journal of said Court; that a copy be presented to his family, and that the newspapers of this and Erie County be requested to publish these proceedings.

Resolved, That we will attend his funeral in a body on Wednesday morning.

F. A. WILDMAN, Sec'y.

Mrs. Sarah Matilda, relict of the late James Williams, Esq., died in Norwalk, August 25, 1871, in the 80th year of her age. She was the seventh daughter of Major David Hunt, of Jersey City, and was a native of that place. She was married in 1813, and came to this country in 1815. After a brief residence West the family returned to the East, and in 1816 came back to this country. Here, except for a short time while Mr. Williams was Collector of the Port at Sandusky, and a brief residence in Milan, she has always resided, and at the close of a long and beautiful life, (her husband having passed away but a few months before,) she was surrounded by two sons and five daughters and their families, who deeply mourn over the severing of so tender a tie.

As a wife, she was full of deep devotion to her husband's happiness and interests, and her sound judgment was to him a valued aid and guide. Her patience and calm endurance in all the privations and varied fortunes of the family in a new country were remarkable. She thought not of self; did not live for herself, but for others. As a parent, she was unfaltering in her care and sound in judgment, and in all her responsibilities

was under the control and guidance of a high sense of duty, enlightened by sound views of morality and deep Christian principle. To her latest breath all loved and reverenced her, not merely as a parent, but as one of shining worth. As a neighbor, she was, in all the relations of life, just what would be looked for in one of so much excellence in her family. She was faithful in doing her own duties, and never interfered with others in the discharge of theirs. Her society was mainly in her own family, and her visits, during all her years of activity and vigor, were commonly to the chambers of the sick. During life she was esteemed by all, and she has left many precious remembrances behind.

Though reared in the Society of the Friends, in her 22d year she was baptized in the Protestant Episcopal Church, and has ever since been an earnest, devoted and exemplary member, and firmly Evangelical in her views. Her quiet and peaceful death fitly concluded a life of such unblemished worth. She did not seem to *die*, but gradually to *fade* away, like the setting of the sun at the close of a long, clear, calm summer's day. The approach of death was so gradual as scarcely to be appreciated, and so painless as to be divested of its terrors. Perfectly well aware herself of the coming change, and conscious till nearly the last, she kissed an affectionate farewell to her family, bore witness to a comforting trust in the Saviour, and thus quietly fell asleep in Jesus.

Martin Denman died at his residence in Townsend township, Huron County, January 24, 1872, aged 65 years. He was a man of strict integrity, most exemplary in all the relations of life, first and foremost in every good work, a sincere Christian, a kind and indulgent father, greatly respected and esteemed by his friends and neighbors, and in his death his family and the community in which he resided have sustained an irreparable loss.

Charles Leicester Boalt died in Sandusky City, on Wednesday, August 10, 1870, aged 68 years. He came to Norwalk, Huron County, and settled, remaining there until 1865, when he removed to Sandusky. He was the first President of the Toledo, Norwalk & Cleveland Railroad, now a link in the Lake Shore line, through whose energy and perseverance, mainly, it was constructed.

The first generation of lawyers who did good service in laying the foundations of Ohio is no more, and now the second generation follow with swift footsteps.—Before 1833, Mr. Boalt was well established at Norwalk in the successful practice of the law. He continued to do a leading business between Cleveland and Toledo until he engaged in the building of the Toledo, Norwalk & Cleveland Railroad, when he gradually withdrew from the Bar. His long and honorable professional career, his skill and tenacity as an advocate, his fidelity to his clients, (always consistent with truth and honor) his integrity—personal and professional—his courtesy and kindness, constituted a character and won a reputation of which his legal brethren, his friends and his family may well be proud.

Mr. Boalt's father was an early pioneer, and the education of the son suffered for want of schools and books, but these and other embarrassments were overcome, and Mr. Boalt attained success and distinction in spite of early disadvantages.

He married at Norwalk the sister of Mrs. Judge Lane and the late Roger Griswold, of Ashtabula. From the day of his settlement at Norwalk, till the day of his death, he had "no need of spoil," but was prospered in whatever "he put his hands unto." "He was known in the gates—sitting among the elders of the land." He was alike prosperous and happy in his social relations. His wife and many children all survive him, and have position, prosperity and character worthy of the father.

Mr. Boalt never sought judicial, official, or political position, though he would have honored any such place. In all his

prosperity and in all his distinction, he was constantly diligent and faithful, as if work was all there is in life worthy to be done.

His funeral was one of the largest ever held in Norwalk. A special train from Sandusky, drawn by the locomotive "C. L. Boalt," draped in mourning, and conveying the body of the deceased together with the family and friends, arrived at the Norwalk depot, at half-past one P. M. of August 16, where a large concourse of citizens were in waiting. Proceeding directly from the cars to the carriages in waiting, the funeral cortege moved to Woodlawn Cemetery, where the last sad rites over the grave were performed by the Rev. Dr. Bronson, of Gambier. The procession was nearly a mile in length, and the streets through which it passed were thronged with people, which evinced the respect and esteem in which the deceased was held by his old friends and neighbors.

At a meeting of the Court and members of the Bar of Huron County, held in Norwalk, the following preamble and resolutions were introduced, read and adopted:

WHEREAS, We have heard with profound sorrow of the death of our late associate and distinguished fellow citizen, Charles L. Boalt, Esq.; and,

WHEREAS, Deceased was so long connected with, and so favorably known as a member and ornament of, the Bar; therefore,

Resolved, That in his death we have lost a cherished friend and valued associate, a citizen of rare excellence and energy of character, one to whom the Bar was deeply indebted for his uniform kindness, able counsel and worthy example, one to whom we as citizens are largely indebted for his public spirit, indomitable energy and untiring interest in all those enterprises which have so largely contributed to the prosperity of our village and county.

That we deeply sympathize with the bereaved family in their severe affliction and irreparable loss.

That as a mark of respect to the memory of our deceased friend and brother, we will attend his funeral in a body.

That a copy of the proceedings of this meeting be presented to the family of the deceased, and that at the next term of the Court of Common Pleas of this County a motion be made asking that the same be spread upon the Journal of said Court.

Mehetable Shourds died in Greenfield township, Huron County, on the fifth day of the week, and fifth day of the ninth month, A. D. 1872, aged 75 years 4 months and 6 days.

Mrs. Mary Foster died at the residence of her son, Maj. John H. Foster, in Norwalk, June 9, 1872, aged 88 years.

Samuel L. Hatch died in Norwalk, O., September 23, 1872, aged 63 years.

George Gauff died in Norwalk, October 15, 1872, aged 66 years.

Isaac Powell died in Hartland, Huron County, February 3, 1873, aged 63 years. He was well known as a prominent agriculturist and stock-raiser.

The following is a copy of an inscription on a tombstone in the church-yard at Eatonville, Herkimer County, New York, taken by M. K. Cole:

"Alexander, son of Joseph and Lovina Mason, was slain at Sandusky, Ohio, by the Indians, Sept. 29, 1812, aged 33 years, 17 days."

PUBLISHER'S NOTICE.

THE preparation of the present Volume has been attended with some difficulty, from the lapse of time since the last issue of the *Pioneer*. This has caused an undue proportion of space to be given to the reports of the Society Meetings and the Obituary Record, but it is important that these should be preserved complete. Much time has been devoted to the latter by both the Biographer and the Publisher, and it will be found more full for the time covered, than any former Volume. In the interval of over four years, either very few articles were contributed for its columns, or they were lost in the change of officers. While this Volume was in press, a mislaid package was found in the office of a former Secretary, which contained several contributions, that will appear in the next issue.

Not a dollar of money had been raised by the numerous Committees appointed by the Society to collect subscriptions for this Volume, until it was nearly through the press, when some was received from James Arnold, E. J. Waldron and Harvey Fowler. To meet an expense of several hundred dollars, the amount of twenty-four dollars is all that has been collected from committees and subscribers. It is evident that the Society must provide a publication fund for the purpose, or the *Pioneer* must continue to be issued at the risk of individuals, who assume it for the sake of the enterprise. I have purchased new type for this Volume and with the design to continue the publication. For its excellent mechanical appearance, the Society is indebted to Capt. W. S. Wickham, of the Norwalk Reflector Office, who has given to it his personal and careful attention.

If the officers and members of the Society will promptly aid in the sale of the present issue, to prevent loss (as the labor and risk are gratuitous), I will undertake the publication of Volume Twelve of the *Pioneer* in time for the next Annual Meeting of the Society in June, 1875. In addition to the Pioneer History, the Military Record commenced in this Volume will be continued, to include the officers and soldiers from the Firelands, who served in the Union Army, and in the Wars against Mexico and Great Britain. There will also be added the History of Churches and Schools, and of the various Religious, Educational, Agricultural, Fraternal and other Societies in the Firelands.

The reader who discovers any errors or omissions in this or the prior Volumes of the *Pioneer*, is requested to call attention to them that they may be corrected in the next issue. All who have matter to contribute for Volume Twelve, will please send it to me.

G. T. STEWART.

Norwalk, O., October 31, 1874.

CONTENTS OF VOLUME ELEVEN.

Page.

Firelands Historical Society.
- Annual Meeting, 1870, . . . 1
- Quarterly Meeting at Wakeman, . 5
- Annual Meeting, 1871, . . . 8
- Quarterly Meeting at Milan, . 15
- Annual Meeting, 1872, ... 18
- Quarterly Meeting at Townsend, . 23
- Quarterly Meeting at Bellevue, . 26
- Annual Meeting, 1873, ... 28
- Quarterly Meeting at Monroeville, 31
- Annual Meeting, 1874, ... 34

Family Re-Unions, ... 90–92
Golden Weddings, ... 56–58
Historic Remains, ... 53–56
Military History 123d Regiment, 58–75
Miscellaneous Articles.
- April Cold Weather, ... 46
- Coopers' "Bee-Hunter," . . . 45
- Dr. Taliaferro, Death of, . . . 41
- Election Returns, Old, . . . 44
- First Vessel on Lake Erie, The, 49
- Indians and Whisky, ... 38
- Lengthening Years of Man, The, 49
- M. E. Church, The Pioneer, . . 40
- McAdam Road, The First, . . 42
- Moravian Mission, The, . . . 43
- Missionary Island, ... 50
- Minerals, ... 52

Page.

Miscellaneous Articles.
- North Ohio Regiments, Re-union of, 47
- Olden Times—Humorous Sketch, 40
- Ohio, The State of, ... 41
- Oldest Citizen of Ohio, The, . . 46
- Pioneer Hunting Story, A, . . 42
- Pedestrian Pioneer, A, . . . 45
- Pioneer Societies, ... 51
- Return Jonathan, ... 48
- Rev. Samuel Marks, ... 45
- "Take It Cool," 43
- Western Pioneer, Death of a, . 47
- What Old Men Can Do, . . . 52

Pioneer History.
- Early Recollections of Wakeman, 85
- First Settlers of Norwalk, . . . 80
- Greenfield in 1819, ... 88
- Journey from New England to the Firelands 55 years ago, . . . 86
- Mrs. Elizabeth L. Gibbs, Incidents in the Life of, ... 83

Pioneer Obituary Record, . . 92–118
Poetry.
- An Old Song, ... 78
- Old Age, ... 79
- Over the River, ... 76
- Pioneer Mother, Death of a, . 77

Publisher's Notice, ... 119

THE FIRE LANDS PIONEER.

VOLUME XII.—SEPTEMBER, 1876.

FIRE LANDS HISTORICAL SOCIETY.

QUARTERLY MEETING.

MORNING SESSION.

The Fire Lands Historical Society met at the Congregational Church, Wakeman, November 27th, E. O. Merry, of Bellevue, Vice President, in the chair. The meeting was opened with prayer by Rev. E. B. Payne, of Wakeman. The minutes were read by Hon. G. T. Stewart, of Norwalk, and P. N. Schuyler, Esq., then read the Constitution and By-Laws. John G. Sherman was elected Secretary *pro tem.* There was then a singing of "Northfield" by the choir. Mrs. Joseph French then sang a touching piece, "When shall we all meet again?" When she closed she remarked that she had not sung very well, because the "machine was about worn out." After some remarks by Mr. Stewart the choir sang "China" in which the congregation all joined.

Mr. Joseph French related an incident which happened forty-six years ago. A Mr. Waldron, who carried the mail on foot from Akron to Norwalk, often stopped at Mr. French's. One time when he came he had a piece of venison with him. Mr. French inquired how he got it. He said: "I shot it with the mail bag; I came on to him right in a tree top, threw my bag at him which struck his head. It so frightened him I got hold of him and cut his throat."

Mr. Cyrus Strong said he came to Sandusky forty-six years ago. He attended meeting after this in School District No. 1, Wakeman; his wife and baby went also. The minister asked us if we could not keep our child still, when at the same time the minister had his dog near him that made more noise than the baby.

Mr. James Arnold related an incident of his brother, who lived with Mr. Comstock, south of Milan. His brother was sent for the cows by Comstock who said he heard the bell. "Now you go for the cows and I will get the pudding ready while you are gone." He started, and being a little deaf in one ear, he went the wrong way and did not reach the cattle, and finally started back. It was a misty, rainy day. He soon found he was lost—traveled all day, and night coming on, sat

down by a tree and staid all night. The next day he traveled all day, and the next night found him in the woods, and he lay down again and passed another night. The next day he came to a clearing, found a log-house, and called for something to eat. The lady said there was nothing in the house, not a mouthful, "But a mile from here there is a family, which you can reach and get something." He got there and the kind woman soon had some pudding and milk, but would give him only a little at a time, and then said he must sleep, and she would give him more in a little while. In a day or so he left there and was directed to follow the river until he reached the road, and go home by the road.

Asa Briggs showed a half cent coin he had owned for fifty years, a pair of knee buckles one hundred and fifty years old, two old books,—"Dissertation on Prophecies," was published in 1793. "I have lived here twenty-nine years. First settled in Hartland."

A. C. Hall stated that a Mr. J. M. Vaughan has the identical chair brought over in the Mayflower. It is in Rootstown, this State.

Mr. James Arnold stated that he once offered a ticket agent American money for a ticket, and "don't you think he would not take it. The money was shinplaster."

Mrs. French stated that she went to Hartland, to her brother's on horseback with her daughter behind her. She got a quantity of cucumbers for pickles, put them on her horse, and with her girl behind started for home. "Night was coming on, we got lost, and our horse by rearing up, threw us both off and left us in the woods. We found our way to a Mr. Haskins, about a mile away, who got a horse and took me home. After getting something to eat, Mr. French started for the horse and found a man riding it home with all things right."

Rev. J. E. Payne remarked that he was happy to be here. He came to this county in 1837, and staid one year. He remembered the year as being a hard one. He said he was in sympathy with the pioneers of this county and thought their children would fill the whole bill of their parents.

A. C. Hall remarked that he was one of the pioneers of another county. "Had the first pair of boots when eighteen years old. Father chopped to pay for my schooling. I taught school in Clarksfield, boarded around, for dinner had johnny cake. I have heard my father say he paid $18 for a barrel of salt. My uncle paid $24 for a barrel. My first teacher was a drunkard. I remember of putting my feet in the sun to keep them warm in winter time. My grandfather was a minute man in the Revolutionary war. There were seven brothers of his wife in the Revolutionary war, who served in the aggregate twenty-one years.

Mr. Waldron, of Hartland, came fifty-three years ago. He said he was reminded of those early days by seeing that old spinning-wheel on the stand. We used to trade even, a yard of linen cloth for a yard of cotton cloth. I remember killing a fawn. I came here with my grandfather. He was present at the battle of Bunker Hill, and was made a prisoner. My father was in the war of 1812. I wanted to go to our last war, but they would not take me. I could not eat hard-tack. I am interested in the pioneer meetings.

AFTERNOON SESSION.

There was a recess until 2:45 P. M., during which time refreshments were served at private houses. The afternoon meeting was opened by singing.

The presentation of relics being in order, P. N. Schuyler presented a geography by George B. Sherman, called an Astronomical Geography, published in 1806; a stone hammer and ax combined; an In-

dian stone for skinning animals; a specimen of Lake Superior ore; an Indian spear head; a facsimile of early money, 1690; a copy of the New England Journal, printed in 1728; a paper of 1770; a beautiful toddy-glass, one hundred and fifty years old, presented by Mrs. L. S. Hall, owned by her grandfather; an iron ball about an inch in diameter, taken from a rebel general's head, while leaving the battle-field of Colfax Court House, in the year 1863, by Sergeant George R. Whitman; a pair of linen stockings presented by Mrs. D. S. Clark, knit by Mrs. Amiel Platt during the Revolutionary war—in good state of preservation; two baby caps, a pair of infant stockings, and a pair of oversocks, presented by Emily Whitman, and worn by Emily Barnes, born September 22, 1822, South Britain, New Haven county, Connecticut; an old-fashioned wheel, made by Rufus Bunce, for spinning flax with both hands, and operated during the meeting by Mrs. Amos Clark—it was the first wheel of the kind made in Wakeman, about 1829; a quilt pieced by Thomas Burton, about thirty years ago, containing 3,500 pieces—presented by Mr. L. S. Hull, and now the property of Mrs. Edward Bunce; a piece of hard-tack brought from the battle field of Bull Run by Sergeant C. E. Minor, presented by Mrs. Bunce.

Music followed,—"White shepherds watch their flocks, etc."

P. N. Schuyler made some remarks in regard to a meeting held here four years ago, in which he referred to the late Rev. C. F. Lewis, who took a lively interest at that meeting. He read a notice of his death, which occurred a few months ago. He was the first white child born in Norwalk township. His father took at one time to Huron a load of wheat and sold it for a single barrel of salt. Mr. Schuyler spoke of the first meeting held that originated the Fire Lands Society, and referred to those present, and also to the celebration held the following Fourth of July. He spoke of the tenacious manner in which these meetings have been sustained. He touchingly referred to an old member of the Society, Mr. D. H. Pease.

Mr. James Arnold was called for, and related some incidents of pioneer life. He said some of the young men might be discouraged in hearing these tough stories, "but," said he, "it is not all gloom. There were bright days, and I can say that those early days were as pleasant as I ever enjoyed."

A Bible was presented by Mr. Hurst, eighty years old.

Music by the choir, "Coronation."

Mr. Underhill, of Norwalk, said his father built the first mill on the east branch of the Huron river, in the Fall of 1817.

Mrs. J. G. Bright showed the audience how tow was prepared for spinning. The cards used by her, she said, had been in use over a hundred years, and belonged to her mother, Lydia Alvord, who died a few days ago, aged eighty-one years.

Some remarks were made by a daughter of Deacon Blackman, an early settler in Wakeman.

The meeting was one of the most interesting ever held, and there was a good attendance of the pioneers of Huron county. A vote of thanks was given to the citizens of Wakeman for their hospitality. There was fine singing, led by L. S. Hall, and at four o'clock the meeting adjourned.

E. O. Merry, Chairman.

John G. Sherman, Secretary *pro tem.*

QUARTERLY MEETING.

MORNING SESSION.

The First Quarterly meeting of this Society for the year 1875, was held in the M. E. Church at Greenwich Station, on Wednesday, March 31st, commencing at

11 A. M. The day was pleasant, and although the roads were rough the attendance was large and the church was filled. In the absence of the President and Secretary, Dr. A. D. Skellenger, of New London, was called to the chair, and H. W. Owens, of Fairfield, was appointed Secretary *pro tem.* Rev. Silas D. Seymour, of Greenwich, opened the meeting with prayer for Divine blessing. The proceedings of the last annual meeting of the Society as published in the *Pioneer*, were read. The choir, led by Wm. H. H. Gorham, and assisted by Miss Fanny Burrows as organist, sang an opening piece. Samuel Doud, of New London, who was one of the pioneers of Greenwich, was then requested to address the meeting, and related some interesting incidents in the early settlement of that part of the Firelands. On motion, all pioneers present over sixty-five years of age were requested to rise, and thirty-five were reported, as follows: John Chambers, of Ruggles, aged eighty-six; and Harvey Sackett, of Ruggles, aged eighty-five, were the two oldest present. Four others were over eighty, Luther Mead, Alice Mead, Martha Carl and Benjamin Kniffin, of Greenwich. Three others were over seventy-five, Jesse Hoag, George Thomas and Samuel Feller, of Greenwich. Those over seventy years were Mrs. Isabella Jenny, Dr. Henry Reynolds, Mrs. A. Briggs, Henry McDonald, Dr. and Mrs. S. P. Haviland, Daniel Fancher, of Greenwich, Mr. and Mrs. James Carney, of Ruggles, Gen. G. D. Barker and John Baer, of Ripley; and those over sixty-five were Samuel H. Gibson, R. B. Griffin, Abram Gifford, Humphrey Gifford, A. P. Long, George W. Mattoon, James Bartlett, T. S. Fancher and Mrs. S. Barton, of Greenwich, Mr. and Mrs. George Peck and John Bell, of Ripley, and Mrs. Mary Sackett, of Ruggles. Other aged pioneers came in during the meeting, whose names were not reported. A recess was then taken until 2 P. M., and the pioneers were invited to a free and excellent dinner prepared by the ladies of Greenwich. Three hundred and eighty accepted the invitation, and it was afterwards announced that there was enough provisions left for one hundred more, which were then donated to the poor of the township.

AFTERNOON SESSION.

At 2 P. M. the meeting was opened with prayer, by Rev. Mr. Ball. The Constitution of the Society was read, and thirty-seven persons became members, paying twenty-five cents each. The name of each, time and place of birth, and time and place of first settlement in the Firelands were duly reported, and ordered to be entered upon the records of the Society. The choir sang "Jordan" and one verse of "On Jordan's Stormy Banks I Stand," in the old style, with much applause, one pioneer remarking that it sounded as good as it did forty-five years ago. Dr. Skellenger then read obituary notices, prepared by himself, of Alcott Russell, Henry Anderson, William Stevens, Mrs. Julia A. Ladd, Mrs. Adaline Rumsey, Mrs. Laura Hooker, Mrs. Sophia Townsend, Nathaniel Mills, Dr. Austin Starbird and R. W. Stevens, which will appear in the next volume of the *Pioneer*. The death of other pioneers was announced. Harlan E. Simmons, of Greenfield, died at the age of seventy-seven years, on the farm where he had lived over fifty-five years, greatly esteemed by all who knew him. Edward E. Kinsley, who was born in New London, (a son of Peter Kinsley, one of its first settlers), died at Lima, Indiana, March 24, 1875, aged forty-six years. His wife, Lucia, died two weeks previously, at the same place.

Brief, interesting addresses were made by Dr. Skellenger, S. Doud, Isaac G. Sturtevant, Harvey Sackett, Daniel Fancher, and others.

The exhibition of relics being in order,

M. M. Burgess, Greenwich, donated to the Society two gridirons, supposed to be over three hundred years old, which had been used in the family of his parents and grand-parents. Samuel Ferris, of Ruggles, exhibited an iron wolf and bear trap, used also for wild turkey by his father, Abram Ferris, and grand-father, Israel Ferris. It had been used over one hundred years. Leander Mead, of Greenwich, exhibited what he named a Dutch oven, made of tin, with a concave bottom to drippings, crossed by an iron spit, used for roasting turkeys, game and meat, which he said he brought with him into the township, and it was old then, but is capable of good service. He exhibited a flint with steel and a tinder-box filled with tinder made of scorched cotton rags, used by his father fifty-five years ago to kindle fires. He tried it before the meeting and proved that it was yet in good condition. He also exhibited a pewter dinner-plate, in the height of fashion fifty years ago; another pewter meat-platter, both used by his wife's father, Rev. Solomon Mead, who was for forty years pastor of a church in Westchester county, N. Y. Also a leghorn bonnet, owned by his mother, Mrs. Luther Mead, which cost about fifteen dollars when new, and was quite the fashion with ladies fifty years ago. Its ample size produced some merriment by way of contrast with modern bonnets. Mrs. Hezekiah Smith, of Greenwich, exhibited a handsome glass sauce dish, brought from Connecticut by her over sixty years ago. She is grandmother of Mrs. H. G. Washburn.

A. E. Barker, of Fairfield, donated to the Society a pair of spectacles, given to him by his grand-mother, Sallie West, which are over one hundred and fifty years old. Mrs. West died in Fairfield, June 10, 1873, aged eighty-two years. She came to the Firelands in 1831. A picture of Mrs. D. Van Benschoten, of Berlin, Erie county, mother of Mrs. H. G. Washburn, of Greenwich was exhibited, which was taken in Hartford, Connecticut, over sixty years ago, having very much the appearance of a photograph, though probably painted.

Daniel Fancher, of Greenwich, exhibited a Bible brought into the township by his father, which was printed in Hartford, Connecticut, in 1811. Riley Griffin, of Greenwich, exhibited a tobacco box in the form of a neat little book, bought in 1818, but he said he had never read it. Mrs. Susan Barton, of Greenwich, exhibited a sampler ingeniously worked in 1756 and also some manuscript poetry written by her father over one hundred years ago of which the writing was legible, the ink appearing quite black and not faded. Ebenezer Bevans exhibited a spectacle case preserved as a memento in his family, which was over one hundred years old. Daniel Smith, of Greenwich, exhibited two letters written in 1772 and 1773, of which the penmanship and ink were both excellent. Benjamin Kniffin, of Greenwich, exhibited a political poster printed in 1812. It was decorated with two cuts, one of the devil with torch and tail and the other of the Genius of Liberty, with mottoes of "Sailor's Rights and no Press-gang." "When the Devil Reigns, Kings are Triumphant," "The Genius of Liberty Presides over the Rights of her Sons." Over the devil was the name "Tories," and over Liberty was the name "Republicans."

Mrs. Mary Mead, of Greenwich, donated to the Society a trammel brought from England in 1642, and a fire shovel showing by the date on it that it was one hundred and twenty-four years old. John B. Barker, of Greenwich, donated to the Society a cow-bell, which was the first used in that township. It was made for Varney Pearce, the first Justice of the Peace there, by a man named Heith, living two miles north of Mansfield, where the 'Squire went to get it made for his

cows. He exhibited a small, neat trunk, made in 1805, by Nezer Sutherland, of Ruggles, (then living in Westchester county, N. Y.), when he was nineteen years of age. Harvey Sackett, of Ruggles, exhibited a pair of worsted combs, used to prepare wool for worsted yarn, and explained the process. They were over one hundred years old and good for use for another century.

The Committee of Arrangements for the meeting, H. J. Gifford, John B. Barker, W. A. Hossler, Wm. F. Smith and G. J. Bartlett, were voted the thanks of the Society for the satisfactory manner in which they had performed their duty. Thanks were also voted to Mr. Gorham, the leader, to Miss Burrows, the organist, and to the other members of the choir for the excellent music with which they enlivened the meeting, especially the songs and tunes of olden times. Thanks were given to the Chairman Dr. Skelenger, for the efficient service, and to the citizens of Greenwich for their hospitable entertainment. Announcement was made of the Nineteenth Annual Session of the Society, to be held at Norwalk in June next, and the meeting closed with "Old Hundred," sung by all.

A. D. Skellenger, Chairman.
H. W. Owen, Secretary *pro tem.*

NINETEENTH ANNUAL MEETING.

MORNING SESSION.

The Nineteenth Annual Meeting of the Firelands Historical Society, held at Norwalk, June 30, 1875, was called to order at 10:30 A. M., by President Z. Phillips, and the exercises were opened with prayer by Rev. A. Newton. The proceedings of the last meeting were read by the Secretary and approved by the Society.

G. T. Stewart, Esq., presented and read the report of the Directors for the year past, which was as follows:

The Directors of the Firelands Historical Society respectfully report: That during the year since its last annual meeting the Society has held two quarterly meetings, one at Wakeman and one at Greenwich, which were well attended and exhibited a good degree of interest among the people of those and adjoining townships in this enterprise. It is important that these quarterly sessions be continued and that those townships especially be visited which have had no meeting. They bring home to the people a knowledge of the Society and its operations, which many of them would not otherwise learn, awakening their interest and enlisting their efforts in the promotion of its objects.

The number of volumes last reported (137) deposited with the Young Men's Library Association of Norwalk, has not been increased during the last year. The Cabinet has merely been a book-case in the ante-room of Whittlesey Hall, containing some Indian relics and historical collections, not prepared in any order for exhibition and kept closed for years. We recommend that a suitable custodian of the Cabinet and Library be appointed who shall prepare a list of the books and articles received and take care of new contributions and have them suitably arranged for the inspection of visitors. Some plan should be adopted to collect funds sufficient to hire a room in which the books and collections of the Society can be preserved in a form worthy of the Society and accessible to the public.

Pursuant to the instructions of the Society at its last annual meeting, the Directors procured the publication of the eleventh volume of the Pioneer, containing the collections of the Society from June, 1870, to November, 1874. Of the back volumes of the Pioneer the Society has the following copies deposited in the Young Men's Library at Norwalk, any of which can be procured by application to

the Secretary, but the Society has no entire sets for sale:

Vol. 2, No. 1	47	copies
" " " 2	16	"
" 5	10	"
" 7	121	"
" 8	31	"
" 9	83	"
" 10	32	"

In addition to these we had ten copies each of the last five volumes of the Pioneer, (7 to 11 inclusive) bound in one volume of nearly 600 pages comprising the collections of the Society since 1865, with steel engraved likenesses of Hon. Ebenezer Lane and Dr. Daniel Tilden, which bound volumes are offered for sale at $3.50 each. If these find ready sale, three times as many such bound volumes can be furnished. But the cost of a reprint of the eleven volumes, as proposed at former meetings of the Society is too great and the prospect of sales insufficient to encourage such an enterprise.

The expense of printing the eleventh volume of the Pioneer, (,1000 copies of 120 pages) was	$330 98
Postage on those mailed	3 90
Binding ten volumes	11 00

To cover this expense it will require the sale of 700 copies at fifty cents each. About 460 have been sold. All engaged in the publication and sale of this volume gave their services without compensation, and, with the officers of the Society, paid for all copies taken by them, and none were given away, except to editors and exchanges. By this plan it is hoped that a surplus will be realized from the sales of this volume over the cost of printing, which will commence a Publication Fund to sustain the future issue of the Pioneer. Such a fund is greatly needed, and we make an appeal to the members of the Society and friends of the enterprise to aid by their contributions in founding this Publication Fund. The primary purpose of the Society, that of collecting and publishing the pioneer history of the Firelands prior to the year 1820, has been mainly accomplished. But the Society has before it a far greater work, that of compiling and recording the events of more than half a century since, and continuing that history into the coming events of the far future. The only means of making this record permanent is by the continued publication of its historical collections, and this will grow in value as it extends in time. We recommend that private donations be solicited, and that a public contribution be taken at every meeting of the Society for the benefit of this Publication Fund, and that all surplus money of the Society, above its current expenses, be paid into it.

The Treasurer's Annual Reports for the years 1873 and 1874, nothing having been previously rendered, was received as follows:

Balance on hand June, 1872	$13 40
Membership dues, " "	4 50
Membership dues, Townsend meeting, September, 1872	4 50
Sale of Pioneer in 1873	3 00
Membership dues, June, 1873	1 50
	$26 90
Paid A. B. Griffin, Secretary, July 12, 1872	$ 6 00
Paid Printing bill, September, 1872	1 50
Paid S. A. Wildman, Sec'y July 30, 1873	6 00
Paid H. Palmer, expense of Cabinet, January 17, 1874	5 00
	$18 50
Balance to D. A. Baker	$ 8 40

F. SEARS, Treasurer.

On motion, these reports were accepted.

The report of the Treasurer for the year ending June 30, 1875, was presented, as follows:

Received of F. Sears, former Treasurer	$ 8 40
Received at Quarterly Meeting in Greenwich for Memberships, March 31, 1875	9 25
Total	$17 65
Paid for printing and posting 100 bills for annual meeting	4 50
Balance on hand	$13 15

D. A. BAKER, Treasurer.

This report was also, on motion, accepted.

The following letter and annual report

of the Biographer, Judge Benjamin Summers, were read by the Secretary:

MANSFIELD, O., June 1875.

Hon. Z. Phillips, Pres. F. H. Society:

Permit me through you to present my annual report. During the year the Great Reaper has been busy, thinning our ranks fearfully, but such has been my condition that I can make but a meagre report of his doing. For nearly eight months past I have been a suffering invalid, about five months of this time far away from the Firelands, and the last eight weeks confined to my bed. Death has also invaded and broken up my own home meantime. So we go, and soon the last of the Pioneers will be gone. My last report is herein submitted. Whether I go now, or linger a few years more on this side of the river, my lot will be far from you. My children have all sought and found homes outside of the Firelands, and I must seek the care and attention which filial duty and affection can prompt and bestow. I thank the Society for the many marks of confidence and esteem it has bestowed. The many happy reunions we have had shall ever be cherished as the happiest of memories. May our work fall into worthy hands and may God's blessings be with you all.

With fraternal regard,

BENJAMIN SUMMERS,

Biographer F. H. Society.

At the conclusion of the reading of Judge S's letter, a gentleman in the audience said that he spent the previous night with him, and he had sent word to the Pioneers that he was with them in spirit if not in person, and desired to be remembered by them.

Several biographies were presented with the report.

Among these biographies was one of the Biographer's wife, Mrs. Julia B. Summers, who died at Berlin Heights, Erie county, Ohio, November 9, 1874, aged sixty-nine years, eight months and ten days. She was born in Bridgewater Parish, Litchfield county, Connecticut, and settled in Florence, Erie county, in 1825.

The election of officers being next in order, it was, on motion, ordered that a committee of five be appointed to make nominations. The President appointed Samuel H. Gibson, Captain C. Woodruff, J. H. Niles, P. N. Schuyler and E. O. Merry as such committee.

Rev. H. O. Sheldon, of Oberlin, said he was appointed two years ago to prepare a paper on early reminiscences, but had not been advised of the time of holding this meeting, and but recently learned of it. He had hastily prepared a short paper which he would read if desired.

He was invited to read it, which he did.

On motion of Dr. Skellenger, Mr. Sheldon was requested to furnish the Society with a copy of his address.

P. N. Schuyler, Esq., introduced the following preamble and resolution:

WHEREAS, The Constitution of this Society has been amended from time to time, and the amendments are scattered through our records, therefore,

Resolved, That a committee of three be appointed, who shall collect the various parts of the Constitution and present the whole in proper consecutive and consolidated form by report this afternoon. Carried.

The Chair appointed the following named gentlemen as that committee, G. T. Stewart, P. N. Schuyler, S. E. Carrington.

G. T. Stewart announced the exercises for the afternoon, and invited the audience to be present as promptly at the time as possible. He said Judge Finefrock had signified his willingness to adjourn Court, if possible to do so, in order to give the Bar an opportunity to hear the address of Hon. J. M. Root on The Old Lawyers of the Firelands.

Mr. Chamberlain announced that the Carman family, upon being requested, had consented to sing in the afternoon, and on motion of Captain Woodruff, they were

invited to do so. The meeting then adjourned for recess.

AFTERNOON SESSION.

At half-past one the audience began to assemble, and in a short time the Hall was filled. Judge Finefrock adjourned Court for a portion of the afternoon, and the members of the Bar were present in the Hall.

At fifteen minutes before two o'clock, the President called the meeting to order and introduced Hon. J. M. Root, of Sandusky, who proceeded to deliver an address upon The Old Lawyers of the Firelands.

At the conclusion of the address, Mrs. Carman and her two sons sang "The Old Musician and his Harp," with fine effect, which was received at the close with earnest applause.

The President then introduced General Sawyer, who presented a report of the Eighth Ohio regiment.

Ex-Governor Hayes, who was present during the day and occupied a seat upon the platform, was called upon and upon being introduced, responded briefly as follows:

Mr. President, Ladies and Pioneers:

I do not appear for the purpose of making an extended speech this afternoon, for I am quite sure you would very much regret if I were to pull out a manuscript to make you an address at this time of day, and in the present bad atmosphere we have in the hall.

I rise to make acknowledgements merely, to the Society for the honor conferred by the invitation received from its officers to be present on this occasion, to share with you in its very interesting and profitable exercises, and the pleasure I have enjoyed here to-day, in commendation of the Society and its work. I am somewhat familiar with these societies, having read for many years the various books and publications in relation to the Fire Lands and Western Pioneers, and I think I can say that no one of these societies has done more than you,

The early history and reminiscences of the Fire Lands have been collected and preserved. Here are your volumes which tell you what you want to know—what these men and women have done who first came to the Fire Lands.

I have succeeded in getting all these volumes and read every word of them. Your Society has done efficient and noble service, and I trust you will go on in this work. You have made an important addition to it to-day in the record of the old lawyers of the Fire Lands.

All this is interesting now, and far, far more so will it be in the future. Next year we are to celebrate the one hundredth anniversary since we became a nation, and now can you find anybody who can show any relic or scrap of history showing what his father or grandfather did one hundred years ago that will not point to it with satisfaction and pride? And this is what you are doing to-day—collecting and preserving the interesting history and relics of the past for your children and posterity. This is not only accomplished by these social gatherings, but socially they prove a great benefit by mingling together of the people, and this social feature is in itself a sufficient object for societies of this kind. We Americans have not too many holidays, when we can meet the young and old—men of various ideas and descriptions—and mingle and consult together. The more of these meetings you can have of the old inhabitants and others, the better. I trust you may have many of them.

I must not think of detaining you at this late hour and in this heated atmosphere. Besides, I would prefer to listen to some more of that music. I would rather hear such singing as Mrs. Carman's for five minutes than the most eloquent orator for an hour.

After another piece of music by the

Carmans entitled "The Pilgrims;" which was richly enjoyed by the audience, Mr. Stewart read the following report relative to the Volunteers from the Fire Lands, who served in the Mexican War in Company C fifteenth United States Infantry, prepared from memory by General J. A. Jones.

Captain—J. A. Jones.

First Lieutenant—G. A. Sutton.

Second Lieut.—Cornelius Ketchum.

Sergeants—Fred Laubenheimer, Anthony S. Sutton, A. J. Dewaldt.

Privates—Crawford White, A. J. Sutton Joseph Kelble, Robert Buck, Geo. A. Dean Simeon Jones, Alfa Jones, Lester Huyck, Anda Riker, William Boothe, —— Ward, Joseph Maltby, E. Little, —— Zahm.

The above and some others of the Company, whose names are not recollected were residents of the Fire Lands when they enlisted.

This Company was in the battles of Contreras and Churubusco, August 20th, 1847, in the battles of Molino del Rey, September 8th, and Chepultepec, September 11th, and marched into the city of Mexico, under General Scott, September 14th. 1847.

Captain Woodruff made the following report from the Committee on nominations: For President, P. N. Schuyler; Vice-Presidents: J. H. Niles, Norwich; Philo Wells, Vermillion; Martin Kellogg, Bronson; E. O. Merry, Lyme; Luther Avery, Groton; D. G. Barker, Ripley; John Kelley, Danbury; A. R. Marsh, Ridgefield; Stark Adams, Huron; Seth Jennings, Milan; James Arnold, Townsend; A. D. Skellenger, New London; Major Smith, Clarksfield; C. C. Canfield, Wakeman; Cromwell Tillinghast, Berlin; E. J. Waldron, Hartland; David Palmer, Fitchville; H. W. Owen, Fairfield; O. Jenney, Norwalk; Dr. A. H. Agard, Sandusky; D. G. Taylor, Perkins; William Parish, Oxford; Henry Adams, Peru; C. B. Simmons, Greenfield; E. Dickinson, New Haven; D. Sweetland, Richmond; Alanson Raymond, Sherman; A. S. Kelley, Kelley's Island; W. Burch, Ruggles; H. G. Washburn, Greenwich; Homer Brooks, Florence. Recording Secretary, S. E. Carrington. Directors, G. T. Stewart, J. B. Niles, P. N. Schuyler, B. Summers and F. D. Parish. Biographer, J. H. Niles. On motion, the report was adopted.

President Z. Phillips then called P. N. Schuyler to the Chair, as President of the Society. On motion of Mr. Schuyler, a vote of thanks for the long and faithful services of Mr. Phillips, as President of the Society, was most earnestly and unanimously tendered.

On motion, a vote of thanks was also tendered to the Carman family for their excellent music, and to Hon. J. M. Root, Governor Hayes and General Sawyer for their addresses.

The Committee upon the Constitution made the following report:

Your Committee appointed to revise the Constitution submit the following:

CONSTITUTION.

ARTICLE 1. This Society shall be called The Fire Lands Historical Society.

ART. 2. Its objects are to collect and preserve in proper form the facts constituting the full history of the Fire-Lands; also to obtain and preserve an authentic and general statement of their resources and productions of all kinds.

ART. 3. The officers of the Society shall consist of a President, one Vice-President to each township of the Fire-Lands, two Corresponding Secretaries, one Treasurer, one Recording Secretary and a Board of Directors consisting of five members.

ART. 4. The officers thereof shall be elected annually at the annual meeting, and shall perform the duties usually pertaining to their respective offices. It shall be the duty also of the Vice-Presidents in their several townships to represent the interest of the Society and gather historical material. The Board of Directors shall have charge of the business and property of the Society, and shall also act as publishing committee.

ART. 5. The office and records of the Society shall be kept at Norwalk. The annual meeting of the Society shall be held in Norwalk on the second Wednesday of June, of each year,

unless for any one year it be otherwise ordered by the concurrent action of the President and Directors. The President and Directors may call a quarterly meeting in any place when notified by the resident Vice President that proper preparations have been made by the citizens.

ART. 6. Any person may become a member of this Society by signing or having his name affixed to the Constitution, and paying into the treasury the sum of twenty-five cents; and any person also may be received by a vote of the Society, as an honorary member.

ART. 7. This Constitution may be altered or amended at any annual meeting hereafter, by a vote of two-thirds of the members present, provided no amendment shall be considered unless the same shall have been presented in writing, and filed with the Secretary of the Society at least three months before such consideration.

P. N. SCHUYLER,
G. T. STEWART,
S. E. CARRINGTON, } Committee.

On motion the report was adopted.

The number and variety of relics exhibited were less than at some of the previous meetings. The wedding dress of Phebe McDonald, of Norwalk, who was married at Cheshire, Conn., in March, 1811 was exhibited by Rev. Henry McDonald, as a relic of the fashion of that day. It was made from white silk, slightly trimmed and cut from a pattern of probably not to exceed six yards. The waist was but six or seven inches in length and sleeves short—extending about three inches from the shoulder.

Dr. Owen, of Fairfield, exhibited the skull and bones of an Indian which were ploughed up this Spring by a farmer in Fairfield, by the name of Smith. There was also a knife and fork, and the bones of some animal, probably those of a dog were found in the same spot. The position was partially between a sitting and lying attitude—the common mode of Indian burials, and the other accompanying relics are no doubt the memorials of the last tribute, by depositing with the departed his knife and fork and faithful dog, for his use in "the happy hunting grounds."

The Postmaster at Fairfield, had exhibited a powder horn, on which was cut many designs of game, etc., and marked, "Isaac Parson, his horn, December 3, 1777."

A plane made in 1765, and used in Connecticut by Silas French, was presented to the Society by Joseph French, of Wakeman.

A brace and bit was presented by Joseph Ward, of Birmingham. Its age is not known, except that sixty years since it was in the hands of the donor as a relic. The brace is nearly straight, and cut from a piece of beech timber. The bit is fastened stationary to a wooden handle which passes through the arm of the brace, and is fastened with a nail.

A bound copy of the *Christian Observer*, printed in 1817, was presented by E. G. Gibbs, of Milan.

After the exhibition of relics the meeting, on motion, adjourned.

P. N. SCHUYLER, President.
S. E. CARRINGTON, Secretary.

QUARTERLY MEETING.

The regular quarterly meeting of the Firelands Historical Society was held in the Presbyterian Church at Huron, O., Friday, Sept. 3d, 1875. President P. N. Schuyler called the meeting to order at 11 o'clock A. M., and invited the Vice Presidents and ex-President Phillips to the front seat. The meeting was then opened with prayer by Rev. Mr. Smoyer. Extracts from the minutes of the last annual meeting of Norwalk, and the revised constitution were read. The Secretary being absent, Capt. L. E. Merry, of Lyme, was appointed *pro tem.* Eight names of members were added to the Society. Remarks were made by the President, G. T. Stewart, Judge F. D. Parish and others. Noon having arrived, the meeting took a recess until half past one o'clock. The visiting members were invited to the Aicker House, where an elegant free din-

ner had been prepared by "mine host," by order of the Committee at Huron.

The Society reassembled at 2 o'clock, and Mr. Stewart read the history of Methodism in Fairfield Circuit, compiled by M. M. Hester, of Bronson. Capt. L. E. Merry presented a report of Co. D., thirty-fourth Regiment O. V. I. in the war for the Union. An obituary notice of Geo. Goodrich, of Lyme, who died June 22d, 1875, aged seventy-six years, was read by the Secretary. Judge Parish read obituary notice of Judge Harvey Fowler, a resident for fifty-seven years of the Firelands; also of R. J. Jennings, who died at Genoa, Ohio, aged seventy-two years; of Lester Walker, of Sandusky, who died May 6th, aged seventy-eight years; of Robert Bennett, formerly County Commissioner of Erie County, and Trustee of Huron township; of Judge Walter F. Stone, of Sandusky; of George Reber, of Sandusky; of Dr. Martin, of Kelley's Island; and of L. S. Hubbard, of Sandusky. Extended notices of each will be forwarded to the Biographer in time for publication in the next volume of the Pioneer.

The President called E. O. Merry, Vice President, to the Chair, and announced to the Society the death at Mansfield, July 13th, 1875, of Hon. Benjamin Summers; and after making a few preliminary remarks, offered the following resolutions, which were unanimously adopted:

Resolved, That in the decease of the Honorable Benjamin Summers the Society has lost one of its truest friends and ablest supporters, a capable and efficient officer and a wise counsellor; that we recognize as uniting in him all the characteristics of true worth in the citizen, simplicity and nobleness of heart, cultivation and energy of mind; that we miss him in our social re-unions and in our counsels; and that we will remember and strive to emulate his virtues until with Heaven's blessing we meet him in that grand re-union, as we trust, of all the pioneers.

Resolved, That a copy of these resolutions be signed by the proper officers of this Society, and as an expression of our condolence be forwarded to the near relatives of the deceased.

On motion of Mr. Stewart, the President was requested to prepare a biographical notice of Judge Summers for the next Pioneer.

Next in order were five minute speeches by the Pioneers relative to their early experiences in the Firelands.

Dr. G. S. Haskins, of Huron, came in 1831;—he was about the only Doctor who staid through the cholera plague of 1832-4.

Philo Wells, of Vermillion, in his eighty-ninth year, gave the Society the reasons for calling this particular portion of Ohio the Firelands, and made other remarks listened to with a good deal of attention.

Judge Isaac Fowler, of Berlin, related in incident in the pioneer life of Philo Wells, who made a daring attack on a wolf mother in her den, with only the aid of his little son; killing her and her young, which entitled him the Putnam of the Firelands. Judge Fowler also related some facts in his own experience. He said that the first temperance raising was of his barn, in 1832. It was considered impossible before that to raise either house or barn without the help of whisky. Ho was the first to use the gill net in fishing outside of Vermillion Point, that being looked upon as the only place where gill nets could be used until his attempt proved a success.

Bourdett Wood, of Bellevue, said he came to Bloomingville in 1816. It was then called Pipe Creek Settlement. He drew brick for the bank in Bloomingville in 1817. He gave an interesting sketch of his personal experience in the early times.

Jeremiah Hollingshead, Henry Hook, D. W. Tenant and Honorable E. P. Hill were called out and spoke briefly.

The President exhibited a portion of the bark, sixteen inches thick, from one

of the Big Trees of California, and samples of the wood of other trees, brought home from there by J. B. Higbee, Esq., of Bellevue.

Benjamin Worthington, of Huron, exhibited a powder horn which had been in his family over one hundred and fifty years. The piece of silk tied around it was over 100 years old, being a piece of a wedding dress of his grandmother.

Dr. G. S. Haskins exhibited a certificate to teach school, granted in 1836, and signed by Judge Parrish as one of the examiners.

On motion, Stark Adams, G. S. Haskins, W. H. Wright and Rev. S. Marks were appointed a Committee to prepare a sketch of the early history of Huron township, for publication in the next Pioneer.

G. T. Stewart reported the sales of Vol. 11 of the Pioneer, since the last annual meeting, at eighty-three copies, making the total sales 547 copies.

On motion of Mr. Stewart, it was

Resolved. That as the sense of this meeting those persons should be considered Pioneers of the Firelands who are aged forty-five years or more, and who have resided not less than twenty-five years on the Firelands; that any person whether Pioneer or not, can become a member of this Society by compliance with the Constitution.

Also, on motion of Mr. Stewart, a vote of thanks was tendered the citizens of Huron for the entertainment furnished to the visitors.

Special thanks are due Stark Adams and I. T. Reynolds, of Huron, for their efforts in behalf of the Society.

After singing the Doxology, benediction was pronounced by the Rev. C. K. Smoyer, and the Society adjourned.

L. E. Merry, Secretary pro tem.

QUARTERLY MEETING.

MORNING SESSION.

Quarterly meeting of the Firelands Historical Society was held in the Congregational church, at Bellevue, on Tuesday, February 22d, 1876, at 10:30 A. M.; the President, P. N. Schuyler, in the chair.

The exercises were commenced by prayer and reading of the Scripture by the Rev. Mr. Hamilton, of Bellevue, and the singing of an appropriate anthem by the choir.

The Secretary being absent, L. C. Laylin, of Norwalk, was chosen Secretary *pro tem*. President Schuyler made a few remarks expressive of the pleasure it gave him to welcome the pioneers with whom he had so often assembled in the past. Yet it was a sad thought that many he was wont to meet at these gatherings have gone to their final rest and will be no longer with us.

The minutes of the preceding meeting held at Huron, Friday, September 3, 1875, were read by the Secretary and approved by the Society.

The roll of Vice Presidents was then called, and those responding invited to a seat with the President.

After another fine selection of music by the choir, the biographer, J. H. Niles, of Norwich, being called upon for his report, began the same with the statement that one of the main objects of the Society was to procure a short memoir of the early pioneers of the Firelands. The biographer depended largely for his information upon facts reported to him by friends of the deceased. A long list of the departed ones was then read and suitable remarks made upon the lives and character of those who had lived in that section of the Firelands. The Secretary read the biographies of Stephen Robinson, of Greenfield, who came to the Firelands in 1819; Needham M. Standart, Esq., of Cleveland, who established himself in business in Huron, in 1818; and Mrs. P. Wilbor, widow of the late P. Wilbor, of Milan, who came with her parents to Townsend, in 1811. The Secretary also

read the Constitution of the Society, after which an opportunity was given to those who desired to become members. The following names were received: Abram Leiter, Bellevue; B. S. Cogswell and Helen M. Cogswell, Cleveland; Clarissa Clawson, Clarksfield; Caroline M. Gillett, Clarksfield; Jacob Decker, Bellevue; H. R. Adams and Mrs. H. R. Adams, York; Charlotte L. Goodwin, Bloomington; Adam Williams, Lyme; A. W. Peirce, Townsend; H. F. Baker, Bellevue; S. W. Standart and Mrs. S. W. Standart, Bellevue; Mrs. Elizabeth Kinney, York; Mrs. Eliza Stebbins, Lyme; John Bragg, Bellevue; L. L. Gibson, Norwalk.

The Society then adjourned to the M. E. church, where the ladies of the Bellevue Reading Room Association, assisted by their lady friends from the surrounding country, had prepared a bountiful dinner on the plan of "ye olden time." A very large number of pioneers and citizen friends sat down to the well loaded tables and were promptly served by the ladies, who were arrayed in costumes of a hundred years ago.

After dinner the President, referring to the fact that the day of the meeting was made memorable by the birth of Washington, proceeded to read several appropriate toasts, which were responded to in a most happy manner by gentlemen present. This was quite a new feature in the programme, and every one was delighted with the manner in which it was carried out. Great credit is due President Schuyler for his successful efforts to make this part of the day's exercises profitable and interesting. The pioneers and many of their friends then returned to the Congregational church, where the afternoon session of the Society was held.

A poem was presented and read by Mrs. Geo. Mugg, of Clyde, beautifully expressing the experiences of the pioneer, and reciting the noble part taken by their wives and mothers during the trying scenes of their early career.

Geo. Seymour, of Lyme, gave an interesting address on the rise and progress of Lyme Presbyterian church, and displayed the "Church Album," a very valuable arrangement by which the church has preserved the photographs of nearly all the pastors and members of the church.

Joseph George, of Clyde, was next invited to make a few remarks. He began by saying he had lived in the vicinity of Clyde 57 years. He was in the war of 1812, and related some of the trials and hardships he endured during those days.

Wm. Harris, of Clyde, followed him. He left Schuykill county, Pennsylvania, with horses and wagon forty years ago, and after eighteen days travel came to Clyde, then known as Hammer's Corners. He spoke of his early disappointments by the failure of crops, and gave his hearers a slight idea of the pluck and perseverance required in those times. The audience were deeply moved in his reterences to the late war in which he had lost three sons—two killed in battle and one returned from the hospital only to die at home. Hard as it was to give them up, he was satisfied, since they fought grandly for the old flag. He closed up urging his brother pioneers to be faithful a little longer and they would all meet beyond the river. As he sat down the audience sang a verse of, "Shall We Gather at the River?"

L. L. Gibson, of Norwalk, was the next speaker. He came from Canandagua county, New York, forty-two years ago, first stopping at Amsden's Corners, in Huron county. He subsequently moved to Seneca county, and there bought a farm. His wife taught the first school in the neighborhood. He continued to reside there until the year 1866, in which year he came to Norwalk.

President Schuyler then exhibited several curiosities, making interesting expla-

nations and comments upon each. The following were presented:

By J. B. Higbee, Esq., of Bellevue, a piece of bark 16 inches in diameter, from the "Big Trees" of California, secured by himself during his recent visit there.

By the same, pieces of wood from a tree estimated to have been several thousand years old.

By Mrs. S. W. Standart, of Bellevue, an apron 65 years old.

By J. H. Niles, in behalf of Mrs. W. R. Slater, of Havana, a few articles of Chinese table cutlery.

After the presentation of curiosities the following resolution was unanimously adopted:

Resolved, That the thanks of the Society are due, and are hereby tendered to the citizens of Bellevue and vicinity for the cordial reception given us; to the trustees of the Congregational and Methodist Societies for the use of their church edifices; and especially to the ladies of the Bellevue Reading Room Association for the admirable entertainment afforded us.

The Doxology, "Praise God from Whom all blessings flow," was sung to the tune of Old Hundred. The benediction was pronounced by Rev. W. T. Hart, and the Society adjourned to meet at the call of the President.

L. C. LAYLIN,
Secretary, *pro tem.*

ANNUAL MEETING.

MORNING SESSION.

The Annual meeting of the Firelands Historical Society was held at the Court House, on Tuesday, July 4, 1876, a goodly number of Pioneers and others being present. The meeting was called to order by its President, P. N. Schuyler, of Bellevue, and was opened with prayer by Rev. A. Newton, of Norwalk.

The minutes of the last meeting were read by G. T. Stewart, in the absence of the Secretary. Henry W. Owen was then elected Secretary *pro tem.* The roll of officers being called, the following were announced present: President, P. N. Schuyler; Vice-Presidents, J. H. Niles, Norwich; Martin Kellogg, Bronson; E. O. Merry, Lyme; H. W. Owen, Fairfield; O. Jenny, Norwalk. Directors, F. D. Parish, G. T. Stewart. Biographer, J. H. Niles.

G. T. Stewart read the following report from the Board of Directors:

The Board of Directors of the Firelands Historical Society, acting as Publication Committee, respectfully report:

That the cost of printing volume 11 of the *Pioneer* was $330.98
Of postage and express 5.00
Of binding 14 copies of the last 5 vol., .. 15.40
Total expenses 351.38
The receipts from the sales of unbound volumes of the *Pioneer* have been ... 281.60
From the sales of 10 bound volumes 32.50
Total receipts $314.10

About three hundred copies of the unbound Volume 11, and four bound volumes remain, and several hundred copies of the previous unbound volumes, the sale of which would pay off the balance of $37.28, against the Publication Fund, and would pay most of the cost of printing the next volume. They recommend that the bound copies be furnished at $3.00 per volume, that an effort be made to sell the back volumes bound and unbound, and to secure pledges from individuals sufficient to defray the cost of publishing the next volume, for which there is now ample material in the hands of the Publication Committee.

P. N. SCHUYLER,
J. H. NILES,
F. D. PARISH,
G. T. STEWART,
} Directors.

On motion of Mr. Newman, the report was approved.

A biographical sketch of Mrs. Maria (Smith) Phillips, of Hartland, aged eighty-five years, obituary notices of John F.

Adams, and George Goodrich, were presented.

On motion of Mr. Stewart, Henry Buckingham, of Kansas, was elected an honorary member of this Society, and the thanks of the Society were returned to him for several communications.

On motion of Mr. Newman, the President appointed the following committee to nominate officers of the Society for the ensuing year:

C. E. Newman, G. T. Stewart, J. H. Niles, F. D. Parish and E. O. Merry.

The Society then took a recess until half past one in the afternoon, when it re-assembled and resumed business.

The Committee on nomination of officers made the following report:

President—P. N. Schuyler.

Vice-Presidents—J.H. Niles, Norwich; Calvin Caswell, Margaretta; Philo Wells, Vermillion; Martin Kellogg, Bronson; E. O. Merry, Lyme; Luther Avery, Groton; D. G. Barker, Ripley; John Kelly, Danbury; Isaac Underhill, Ridgefield; Stark Adams, Huron; Wm. Lockwood, Milan; James Arnold, Townsend; A. D. Skellenger, New London; Major Smith, Clarksfield; J. M. Whiton, Wakeman; Zalmuni Phillips, Berlin; E. J. Waldron, Hartland; R. W. Beckwith, Fitchville; J. T. Parker, Fairfield; J. D. Chamberlain, Norwalk; S. F. Taylor, Sandusky; D. G. Taylor, Perkins; Andrew Prout, Oxford; Henry Adams, Peru; Charles Call, Greenfield; E. Dickinson, New Haven; D. Sweetland, Richmond; Lovell McCrillis, Sherman; Erastus Huntington, Kelly's Island; W. Burch, Ruggles; H. G. Washburn, Greenwich; Homer Brooks, Florence.

Recording Secretary—Horatio Barr.

Corresponding Secretary—G. T. Stewart.

Treasurer—E. Gray.

Directors—P. N. Schuyler, F. D. Parish, Zalmuni Phillips, Martin Kellogg, C. E. Newman.

Biographer—C. C. Woodruff.

On motion of G. T. Stewart, a vote of thanks was tendered to Geo. S. Haskin, M. D., for his early history of Huron township, Erie county; also to Wilber F. Saunders, for a report of the Historical Society of Montana.

Some interesting documents of Revolutionary days were then exhibited by Mrs. Elizabeth S. Kellogg, of Fairfield, and an original poem relating to the same was then read by her. On motion, a vote of thanks was given Mrs. Kellogg for exhibiting the documents, and for her very appropriate and beautiful poem. Mrs. Kellogg is nearly seventy-three years of age.

The following proclamation was then read.

THE PRESIDENT'S FOURTH OF JULY PROCLAMATION.

WHEREAS, a joint resolution of the Senate and House of Representatives was duly approved on the thirteenth day of March last, which resolution is as follows:

"*Be it resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives, of the United States of America, in Conyress assembled*, That it be and is hereby recommended by the people of the several States that they assemble in their several counties, or towns, in the approaching Centennial anniversary of our National independence, and that they cause to have delivered on such day an historical sketch of said county or town, from its formation, and that a copy of said sketch may be filed in print or manuscript in the Clerk's office of said county, and an additional copy in print or manuscript be filed in the office of the Librarian of Congress, to the intent that a complete record may thus be obtained of the progress of our institutions during the first centennial of our existence;" and

WHEREAS, It is deemed proper that such recommendation be brought to the notice and knowledge of the people of the United States, now, therefore, I, Ulysses S. Grant, President of the United States, do hereby declare and make known the same, in the hope that the object of such resolution may meet the approval of the people of the United States, and that proper steps

may be taken to carry the same into effect.

Given under my hand, at the City of Washington, this twenty-fifth day of May, in the year of our Lord, eighteen hundred and seventy-six, and of the Independence of the United States, the one hundredth.

By the President,

U. S. GRANT.

HAMILTON FISH, Secretary of State.

And in compliance with said request of President Grant, it was announced that the President of the Society, P. N. Schuyler has prepared and reports in manuscript, a historical sketch of the Firelands.

On motion of G. T. Stewart, it was ordered that a copy of this historical sketch be sent to the Librarian of Congress, and that copies be filed in the Clerk's offices of Huron and Erie counties.

C. E. Newman then read a historical sketch of the Episcopal church at Norwalk.

On motion of J. D. Chamberlain, it was ordered that the Society accept the invitation of the Huron County Agricultural Society, and will hold its next quarterly meeting on the Fair ground at the next annual Fair of Huron county.

A communication from the Missouri Historical Society, recommending a National Historical Convention to be held at the city of Philadelphia at some time during the Centennial season, was approved by the meeting, and the following named persons were appointed delegates to attend the proposed National Convention.

S. T. A. Van Sciver, C. B. Stickney, Dr. Obadiah Prentiss and Harry Hanford.

The Board of Directors were authorized to add or substitute other delegates or alternates to the Convention.

Mr. Newman offered the following which was adopted.

Ordered, that pledges be taken for copies of the next volume (12) of the *Pioneer*, to be paid for at fifty cents per copy to the publisher by the person pledged; and it was announced that as soon as six hundred copies should be taken, the volume will be printed.

After the singing of "Old Hundred," and a benediction by Rev. A. Newton, the Society adjourned.

P. N. SCHUYLER, President.

HORATIO BARR, Secretary.

REVOLUTIONARY DOCUMENTS ON CENTENNIAL DAY.

[Read before the Firelands Historical Society, July 4th, 1876.]

BY MRS. ELIZABETH S. KELLOGG,
Of Fairfield.

Auspicious day! A century's crown!
Each passing hour a scroll displays,
Inscribed with deeds of high renown,
Refulgent in the noonday blaze.

These precious relics of the past,
Faded and soiled and dimmed by age,
With Glory's halo yet overcast—
They fill a place on History's page.

That page (whereon is traced in blood
The times that tried the souls of those
Brave men, who in their might withstood,
And dared a tyrant's act oppose,)

Is now unrolled; and by the light
A century gathers in its years,
We read these names and records right
With grateful hearts and joyful tears.

Although the hands that wrote these lines
Long since have crumbled back to dust;
But with increasing lustre shine,
Even yet, their words of *will* and *trust*.

Through Time's long vista to our view
The trials of our sires arise;
Their firm resolve to *dare* and *do*
Is seen in deeds of great emprise.

The glorious *past* is here to-day;
Its cycle forms in grandeur now;
And on its disk in bright array
Are deathless names to which we bow.

Brave Pioneers of thought and power,
And freedom in her choicest scope,—
We owe to them the present hour,
Fraught with success and joy and hope

An hundred years! What have they brought?—
A traveler's foot-prints in the sand?
Ah, no! The mighty changes wrought,
Like granite mountains, long will stand.

Then fling the starry banner out!
Ring all the bells with joyous peals,
And raise to Heaven the rapturous shout
Of gratitude,—a nation feels!

Our fathers' God! Their hope and trust,—
Be still our Country's guide and stay!
Lead her by ways, both great and just,
To many a grand Centennial day!

HISTORY OF HURON TOWNSHIP.

BY GEORGE S. HASKINS, M. D.

As one of the committee appointed to assist in furnishing the Fire Lands Historical Society, with the early history of Huron Township, I have the honor to present to the Pioneers a few historical facts, which I have collected from various sources. Some from such of the early settlers as I have had the good fortune to communicate with; some from old books and geographical descriptions; and some from early official records. The necessity for presenting the public with a history of the early settlement of Huron is pretty generally acknowledged, but the difficulty of executing can only be known to him who undertakes it, as the time has nearly passed, when reliable information can be obtained from the real Pioneer: Therefore, hoping that these considerations will plead with the liberal, for moderation in criticism, the following imperfect sketches are respectfully submitted.

NEW CONNECTICUT.

I have heretofore observed that there are many persons who do not distinctly understand why a part of the State of Ohio, is termed "The Connecticut Western Reserve;" or whether the "Reserve" and the "Fire Lands," cover the same territory. Therefore, for the benefit of those Pioneers who do not fully understand the definition of those terms, or the distinction between the two, I quote from an old book entitled *Historical Collections of Ohio;* published in 1847, by Henry Howe; viz: "Connecticut Western Reserve, oftimes called "New Connecticut," is situated in the northeast quarter of the State, between Lake Erie on the north, Pennsylvania on the east, the parallel of the forty-first degree of north latitude south and Sandusky and Seneca counties on the west. It extends one hundred and twenty miles from east to west, and upon an average of fifty from north to south, although upon the Pennsylvania line it is sixty-eight miles broad from north to south. The area is about 3,800,000 acres; it is surveyed into townships of five miles square each. A body of half a million of acres is, however, stricken off from the west end of the tract, as a donation by the State of Connecticut to certain sufferers by fire in the revolutionary war. The manner by which Connecticut became possessed of the land in question, was the following: King Charles Second, of England, pursuing the example of his brother kings, of granting distant and foreign regions to his subjects, granted to the then colony of Connecticut in 1662, a charter right to all lands included within certain specific bounds; but as the geographical knowledge of Europeans, concerning America was then very

limited and confused, patents for lands often interfered with each other, and many of them, even by their express terms extended to the Pacific Ocean, or South Sea, as it was then called. Among the rest, that for Connecticut embraced all lands contained between the forty-first and forty-second parallel of north latitude, and from Providence plantations on the east, to the Pacific Ocean west, with the exception of New York and Pennsylvania colonies, and indeed pretentions to these were not finally relinquished without considerable altercation. And after the United States became an independent nation, these interfering claims occasioned much collision of sentiment between them and the State of Connecticut, which was finally compromised by the United States relinquishing all their claims upon and guaranteeing to Connecticut the exclusive right of soil to the 3,800,000 acres now described. The United States, however, by the terms of compromise, reserved to themselves the right of jurisdiction. They then united this tract to the territory now State of Ohio.

"Fire Lands" a tract of country so called of about 781 square miles or 500,000 acres in the western part of New Connecticut. The name originated from the circumstance of the State of Connecticut having granted these lands in 1792, as a donation to certain sufferers by fire, occasioned by the English, during the revolutionary war, particularly at New London Fairfield, and Norwalk. These lands include the five westernmost ranges of the Western Reserve townships, which include the whole of Huron and Erie counties, the northwest township (Ruggles) in Ashland county, and the eastern portion of Danbury township or Peninsular, on the north side of Sandusky Bay in Ottawa county.

HURON TOWNSHIP.

The town of Huron, situated at the mouth of Huron river, fifty miles west of Cleveland, and about ten miles east of Sandusky Bay, has probably been settled longer than any other town on the Fire Lands. It now has a population of about 1,200, the whole township of Huron contains about 3,000 inhabitants. It takes its name from its location on the banks of Huron river. The name "Huron" was given by the French to the Wyandot tribe; its signification is probably unknown."—*Ohio His. Coll.*

Huron is an important point, on account of the great shipping facilities which it affords to the surrounding farming country. Huron river is one of the best harbors on the south shore of Lake Erie. The channel of the river at all times has a depth of water of not less than twelve and a half feet, and with a little cost a depth of full fifteen feet can be obtained.

It has been thought by many who have not been well acquainted with all the surroundings that the marshes bordering upon Huron river was a great source of malarial fever, but physicians and others, who have, by long experience and careful observation, given their attention to the subject, have become satisfied that the diseases incident to a new country which heretofore prevailed around Huron, originated from another source, viz: The decomposition of vegetable matter from the want of drainage of level and uncultivated land. For several years past, since the surrounding land on both sides of the river have been brought under a more thorough state of cultivation, no village or township on the Western Reserve can boast of a more healthful atmosphere or less suffering from malarial disease in proportion to population. The marshes being on a level with Lake Erie, there is scarcely a day in the year that there is not a free circulation of pure lake water over the whole marshy surface.

The Moravian missionaries were probably the first white settlers; they located on a part of the southeast corner of Hu-

ron and northeast corner of Milan townships, but abandoned their settlement previous to its occupation by the French Traders, which was anterior to the war of the Revolution. Of the present settlement of Huron township, John Baptiste Flemmond is said to have arrived at Huron sometime in 1805. He was born in Montreal, Lower Canada, about the year 1770, of French parents. He located on the east bank ot Huron river, about two miles from the mouth, on lot number fifteen, section one; the land is now owned by [Simon Knight. He opened a small stock of goods, supplying the Indians and others as their necessities required. Mr. Francis Graham says: "Mr. Flemmond was a plain, unassuming man, of social temperament and good disposition and enjoyed the respect and good will of all who knew him. He did not possess the benefits of education but had a good intellect and one of the most retentive memories I ever knew. He possessed a remarkable gift of enumeration, would sell customers say, ten or twelve items of goods, some of them of considerable value and would give the amount with great accuracy. His religion was Roman Catholic. In 1811 he married a daughter of William Pollock, near the south line of the township. He served in the war of 1812; probably in the capacity of scout or spy. He understood and spoke the Indian language, and was familiar with their manners and customs. He died about the year 1820. Mr Flemmond's wife and three daughters resided on the old farm many years after his death. Mr. Isaac Collins, then of Milan, now of Huron, assisted at his funeral.

Mr. Collins was in Huron at an early day. He was born at Tioga Point, Pennsylvania; went to Columbus in 1812, and came to Milan in 1818. He helped raise the Court-House at the old county seat. He came to Huron in 1858 where he now resides.

Daniel Curtis and family came to Huron soon after the arrival of Mr. Flemmond. Mr. Curtis lived for a time on the Lake Shore, a short distance above where Judge Wright built his brick house, where his son Harvey Curtis was born in 1807; probably the first white child born in the township among the pioneer families of the present settlement. He afterwards bought the farm about two milee farther west on the road leading to Sandusky, where his son Harvey now resides. Mr. Curtis and his wife have both been dead many years. Harvey Curtis remembers hearing the guns the day of Perry's battle.

Many of the settlers left the township immediately after Hull's surrender, on account of the hostilities of the Indians; it si said some people on the Huron river were captured by them, and also at the head of Cold Creek where a woman and child were murdere dand several others taken captive and carried to Canada.

Jared Ward and family came into the township in the spring of 1808, lived on the Flemmond place near the present residence of Widow McMillen, until the following year. He then bought a part of David Abbot's land in Avery, (now Milan township), near the Hathaway neighborhood and where his son Elam Ward now resides. Mrs. Betsy Collins, (daughter of Mr. Jared Ward), now residing in Huron remembers the time when her father came to Huron, and many events that occurre d while here and at Milan. She has no w in her possession a ladys' old-fashioned hair comb of pure silver, made on the Flemmond place by a French blacksmith by the name of Coutermarsh. She has also a butter-ladle made by the Indian Chief Ogontz, whose wigwam stood somewhere within the present limits of Sandusky. Mrs. Collins in illustration of one of the traits of Indian character showing their disposition to do to others as they are done by, relates the circumstance of a squaw coming to one of her neighbors

with a basket of whortleberries to exchange for flour. The lady sent her daughter into another room to get the flour. The girl soon returned with a dish full of flour, whereupon the lady reproved the girl for bringing the dish *full*, telling her at the same time to empty only half the flour into the squaw's sack, the girl accordingly obeyed orders; when madam squaw, with a rogueish leer, took the basket of berries and emptied half the berries into the lady's dish.

The Indians were quite numerous at that time in the vicinity of Huron, but became shy on the breaking out of the war of 1812, and were never afterward as familiar as in former times.

Mrs. Collins was born in Painsville, Ohio, A. D., 1803.

In November, 1809, Cyrus Downing and family, consisting of his wife and two children, located on the Lake Shore, on land now owned by W. H. Wright, where he resided until the summer of 1812, when he left, soon after Hull's surrender, went to Cleveland where he died the next winter. Mrs. Downing afterward married a Mr. Parker, and lived in Milan.

Jeremiah Daniels came about the same time as Downing. Mr. Daniels carried the mail from Huron to Cleveland, making weekly trips. He married Paulina Downing in the Spring of 1813, and settled on the farm now owned by W. J. Hinde, two and one-half miles west of Huron.

Almon Ruggles visited the Firelands a few years prior to moving his family to Huron, in June, 1809. Jabez Wright also came in 1809. The same year these gentlemen commenced the survey of the township, laying it off in sections and lots, in the course of that and the succeeding year, completing the survey in 1810. Mr. Ruggles built a house near Flemmonds, where he resided whilst surveying the township. He was subsequently appointed one of the Associate Judges of the Court of Common Pleas of Huron county. He built a very elegant house about five miles east of Huron, near the west line of Vermillion township, where he moved a few years after completing the survey of Huron township, and where he resided at the time of his death which occurred

occasioned by disease of the heart. His youngest and only surviving son, Richard, now resides at the old homestead, popularly known as Ruggles' Grove. The only surviving daughter, Mrs. Betsy Phillips, widow of the late Dr. Henophon Phillips, of Berlin Heights, is now in feeble health, and resides at Berlin Heights.

Mr. Jabez Wright was born in 1780, near Copenhagen, New York. He married Miss Tamar Ruggles in 1811. He located on the west bank of Huron river, about two and one-half miles from the lake, on land now known as Wright's River Farm, and owned by his son Winthrop H. Wright, and where W. H. Wright was born, December, 1813. Mr. Wright was elected Justice of the Peace for Huron township; the exact date is not definitely known; he was subsequently appointed one of the Associate Judges of the Court of Common Pleas, of Huron county. He acted as land agent for Wm. Winthrop, of New York City, who had acquired the title of the whole township. Mr. Winthrop died about the year 1826, when the land went to his nephew, Wm. H. Winthrop, by will.

Mr. Wright moved onto the lake shore in 1815, about one mile west of the mouth of the river. In the year 1822 he built the first brick house that was erected in the township. He continued to act as land agent for Wm. H. Winthrop, until the time of his death, December 16, 1840, which was caused by falling from the lake bank near his house in a dark night. Judge Wright was an exemplary citizen, highly respected, and all who knew him sadly mourned his sudden and untimely

death. Mrs. Wright died in 1849, at the house of her son, Ruggles Wright. Of their five children there are now living, Winthrop H., the oldest son, and Ruggles the youngest; both reside in Huron township, and Mrs. Abagail Vance, the youngest daughter, who lives in Columbiana county, Ohio. The oldest daughter, Lucy, married Gen. John W. Sprague, died in Troy, New York, May, 1844. Douglas, the second son of Judge Wright, died at the brick house residence, January 11, 1856.

The first public highway that was opened in Huron township was on the east side of the river, running south; surveyed by Judge Wright in 1810.

Major Hiram Russell came to Huron in the winter of 1809 and 1810; built a log-house on land afterward owned by Jeremiah Benscheten, now owned by Mr. Benschoten's two daughters, Mrs. Widow Stapleton and Mrs. James Paxton. Mr. Russel occupied his house as a tavern and store; which was the first tavern kept in Huron—it was opened to the public in 1810. The same year Mr. Russell commenced building a vessel of about forty tons burthen, near his house. He was assisted by Jonathan Sprague (father of the late Jonathan S. Sprague, Esq.,) who done the blacksmith work; she was completed in 1811. Jonathan Sprague came into the township with his family in 1810, located on the east side of the river, a few rods above the railroad bridge. Mr. Russell built another vessel which he completed in the Spring of 1813. She was named the *Fair American*. It is said that this vessel was sold to the British government and delivered to the British agents at Buffalo, soon after being completed. Mr. Russell cleared a field on the farm now owned by Wm. G. Sage. This field was afterward abandoned, and about twenty-nine years ago was covered with a thick growth of timber. The land on this farm at that time was called the openings, and being of a light sandy soil was considered by the early settlers as nearly worthless; it is now known to be the best farm land on the Western Reserve. Russel left Huron soon after war commenced.

In 1809, Asa Smith examined the country about the Huron river, and, with his family moved into the township, in June 1810, from Romulus, Seneca county, New York. In 1811 he was elected Justice of the Peace, at the first election held in the township after its organization. Mr. Smith located near where Mr. W. H. Wright now resides. Asa Smith was born in Massachusetts, his wife in Rhode Island; they lived for a time on Long Island; afterward moved to Romulus, Seneca county, New York, and from thence to Huron. They had six children when they came to Huron, one of whom, William B. Smith, who was born on Long Island, New York, August 15, 1796, and now resides in Sandusky; and to whom the writer of this little historical sketch is under many obligations for his aid in collecting historical facts in relation to the Huron Pioneers. Mr. Asa Smith died at his residence heretofore mentioned, August 30th, 1815. Mrs. Asa Smith died in Sandusky, August 30, 1842.

Jonathan S. Sprague came to Huron with his father and family in 1810, from Canada; in the year 1817, he married a Miss Mahala Daily; in 1827 he located on the farm now owned by Mr. John Holsaur. He afterward bought the Charles Standart farm adjoining his land on the south. Mr. Sprague was a man of more than ordinary natural talents; he had not the benefit of a common school education, yet he was held in so high estimation by his neighbors and acquaintances, that he was frequently elected to offices of trust within the township; he held the office of Justice of the Peace for eighteen years in succession, at the termination of which, he refused to serve the people in that capacity any longer; his health was very

much impaired for several of the last years of his life; he died at his house, on the Standart farm, in January, 1861. Mrs. Sprague died at the house of her son-in-law, Mr. Isaac Durham, in April, 1872, near the village.

Reed & Sanford, merchants of Erie, Pennsylvania, opened a store of goods on the east side of the river, near the lake, about January 1, 1816. It was managed by Mr. Francis Graham, assisted by Mr. J. B. Flemmond. Mr. Wm. B. Smith and his mother kept a public house at that time on the west side of the river. Mr. Smith was married at Huron, in June, 1819, and moved to Sandusky soon afterward: his wife is also now living. Mr. Smith remembers hearing the guns at the time of Perry's battle, and in company with his father, started for Put-in-Bay the next morning, and arriving there the following morning, where Perry's fleet was moored. Mr. Smith was elected Treasurer of Erie county, in 1840.

Wm. Winthrop built a saw-mill on Mill creek, about two and one-half miles west of the river, in 1819.

N. M. Standart opened a store of dry goods and groceries, on the west side of the river, about 1819.

As soon as war closed an increase of population commenced, and from thence onward for several years the increase of business, as well as population was very rapid. After the piers were built by the United States government, so that the river channel could be kept open, with a sufficient depth of water to permit any of the largest sized lake craft to enter, the prospect of a large business, and rapid growth of the town was apparently very promising; although it must be acknowledged that for the last twenty years its great natural advantages have been sadly overlooked, so that the town has not grown as fast as might have been reasonably expected.

In 1830 the steamboat Sheldon Thompson was built at Huron, and commenced regular weekly trips between Buffalo and Detroit. Captain Augustus Walker commanded her; carrying passengers and merchandise; generally calling at all ports between these points. Many ordinary sized schooners were built at Huron, previous to building the Sheldon Thompson; and the number of water craft consisting of steamboats and sail vessels of the largest class which have been built on Huron river banks since that time is almost beyond calculation.

Dr. Ansolem Guthrie was the first physician in Huron. He came in 1813, and remained until 1817, when he removed to Canada. It is not known whether there were any other resident physicians in the township after Dr. Guthrie left previous to Dr. Charles Legget, who came about the year 1830. He was drowned in Huron river, together with his wife, in consequence of the upsetting of a small boat—no one was present at the time of the accident, which occurred May 29, 1832.

Dr. Geo. S. Haskin came to Huron in June, 1832, (soon after Dr. Legget was drowned) and continues the practice of medicine at the present time.

Dr. Joseph Caldwell came to Huron in the Spring of 1833, he continued in the medical practice until his death, which occurred June 13, 1866, in the seventy-fifth year of his age: much lamented by many friends.

About the year 1830, men of capital, both in Buffalo and Detroit, as well as citizens of Huron, began to see the facilities afforded for vessel building, and to avail themselves of those advantages, which was one cause of a rapid increase of population, and onward to about the first of August, 1834, the activity and business bustle as well as immigration was scarcely equalled by any town on the Western Reserve; but all bright and sunny days are sooner or later followed by

storms and the darkness and gloom of night; that year cholera broke out in Europe, soon appeared in our Atlantic ports, and with the great flood of immigration the terrible scourge reached Huron early in August, 1834, attacking and carrying off many prominent citizens, so that the town was nearly depopulated by death and flight; of four practicing physicians, but one remained; one (the venerable Dr. Stoyell), died of cholera, and two others left town, not returning until the monster scourge disappeared.

Mr. John W. Wickham (of the firm of Wickham & Co.), was born in Philadelphia, October 13, 1806, he came to Huron in the Autumn of 1833, and commenced the forwarding business, buying and shipping grain and other farm produce. He also opened a store of dry goods and groceries, but disconfinued that branch of his business a few years afterward. His firm are now extensively dealing in grain, fish and lumber. They carry on a very extensive fishery, giving employment to a great many of the laboring class of Huron citizens. Mr. Wickham is one of the oldest pioneer business men now living on the Firelands, who are actively engaged in mercantile business at the present time.

The first newspaper published in Huron was the Huron *Commercial Advertiser*, issued January 17, 1837, by H. C. Gray, now of Painesville, Ohio. The press and everything connected therewith was destroyed by fire, December 12, 1838. Another press was afterward secured and the publication again commenced, March 2, following, and continued till April, 1842.

There are now five church edifices in Huron, viz: one Protestant Episcopal, one Methodist, one German Evangelical, one Presbyterian, and one German Lutheran.

The venerable Reverend Samuel Marks, Rector of Christ Church, (Episcopal) is the only one of the Huron clergy who can properly be called a Huron Pioneer. Mr. Marks was born in Ireland, November 14, 1797. He was ordained to the ministry by Bishop White of Pennsylvania, March 14, 1824. He came to Huron in May 1839, and with the exception of about three years spent in Racine, Wisconsin, he has with untiring diligence earnestly continued his labors in the church up to the present time. On the evening of March 14, 1874, parishioners, friends and neighbors, assembled at his house to celebrate the fiftieth anniversary of his ministry, expressing their congratulations, and friendly interest in his welfare. Mrs. Marks is a daughter of the late venerable George Minuse, of Milan, who with his family came to the Firelands in 1821, locating on the Merry farm on the east bank of the Huron river.

There are but two other (resident) ministers in Huron: Reverend Mr. Smoyer, Presbyterian, and Reverend Mr. Seip, of the German Evangelical Church.

Mr. George W. Garrett, now dealing in drugs, medicines and dry goods, came to Milan in 1827, from thence to Huron in 1828. Mr. Garrett is now in the sixty-seventh year of his age, having spent nearly half a century of an industrious and busy life within the corporate limits of the town.

There have been several members of the Bar who have attempted to locate in the town, but the surroundings did not seem congenial to that class of men, so that at present there is not a lawyer in the village.

Since the burning of Mr. Gray's printing office and press as heretofore mentioned, the business portions have several times been almost entirely destroyed by fire: About the first of December, 1842, near midnight, the Huron people were alarmed by the cry of "fire" which proved to be on the steamboat Vermillion lying in the river alongside the piers; the

fire was occasioned by the accidental upsetting of a large open can of spirits of turpentine, while putting it on board the boat, spilling the contents into the fire. The boat was instantly enveloped with flame; the passengers somewhat over forty in number, were asleep in the cabin. The number lost is not exactly known, as the steamboats Chicago and Perry were both near at hand, picked up several and carried them on their journey—four are known to have been lost. The crew were all saved.

The number of early settlers who were here prior to 1820, is very limited at present; though there are some of the decendants of the pioneers who settled in the township at a somewhat earlier period.

PIONEERS OF HURON TOWNSHIP.

Stephen Meeker came to the Firelands from Hartford, Conn., in 1811, with his wife, whose maiden name was Polly Platt, and five children. They settled at Florence Corners, (then in Huron Co.) The next year, 1812, Mr. Meeker returned to Connecticut on business, performing the journey on horseback, leaving his family at Florence. Returned to Ohio the following year, 1813, and moved onto the Lake Shore, three miles below the mouth of Huron River, locating on what is now called the "Old Meeker Farm." Mr. Meeker was a blacksmith by trade, and when Gen. Harrison with his army passed west during the war, Mr. Meeker performed the horse-shoeing and other blacksmith work for the army.

Hull's surrender of Detroit, Aug. 16th, 1812, occurred while Mr. Meeker was absent in Connecticut as heretofore mentioned; but living on the Lake Shore at the time of Perry's Battle, he could see the smoke and hear the report of the guns, and the second day after the battle went to Put-in-Bay.

Mr. Meeker was appointed one of the associate judges of the Court of Common Pleas for Huron County, and it is said performing the duties incumbent upon his office with high honor to himself and to the general satisfaction of the people.

Judge Meeker invested some money in vessel stock, left his farm in 1828 and came to Huron and commenced keeping a tavern and boarding house for the accommodation of the ship carpenters who were working on the steamboat Sheldon Thompson, the first steamboat built at Huron and in which Judge Meeker owned considerable stock.

Judge Meeker remained at Huron till 1830 when he returned to his farm on the Lake Shore. Judge Stephen Meeker was born January 28th, 1781, in Hartford, Conn., and died at his residence on the Lake Shore, December 4th, 1849.

Mrs. Judge Meeker was born in Reading, Conn., A. D. 1778, and died at the family residence Oct. 15th, 1849.

Of Judge Meeker's children, six sons and one daughter, only two are now alive viz: Mrs. Maria Wright, relict of the late Norman Wright, and Mr. A. W. Meeker, born at the old Meeker homestead, Jan. 14th, 1816. Mrs. Wright is 65 years old.

Mr. A. W. Meeker moved onto his farm east side Huron River in 1838, where he now resides; his farm consists of nearly 300 acres of land under a high state of cultivation; and will rank with the best in Huron township.

Jesse Hollister and family, consisting of his wife Anna, three sons, Ashley, Edwin and Harvey, and two daughters, Cordelia and Mary Ann, came to the Firelands from Bennington county, Vermont, reaching the end of their journey, Sept. 21st, 1816, settled in Eldridge, now Berlin township, half a mile west of Laughlin's corner on the farm now owned by Sarah Williams. They afterwards moved into Huron township. Mr. Hollister and wife have both been dead many years.

Ashley Hollister, above mentioned, the oldest son, was born in Sandgate, Vermont, March 7th, 1805, married Miss Cecilia Pattee, Oct. 2nd, 1831, and lived near the east line of Huron in Berlin township until April 1849, when he bought the east parts of lots 13 and 14, section first in Huron township, about two miles east of Huron River (the farm on which his son Sherman Hollister now resides) and where he spent his remaining years. He died Sept. 13th, 1874, in consequence of injuries received from a passing train of cars while crossing in a buggy the track of the L. S. & M. S. railway between his residence and Huron village. The accident occurred June 30th, 1874. Mr. Ashley Hollister was highly esteemed by all who knew him; an industrious, enterprising farmer, a kind and obliging neighbor, a generous, public spirited citizen, a faithful and efficient township officer. He served thirteen years as Township Trustee, and twelve years as Justice of the Peace, giving very general satisfaction in his official duties.

Mrs. Ashley Hollister was a daughter of the Rev. Elder Pattee of Vermillion; was born in Troy, Licking Co., Ohio, August 21st, 1811. Died April 30, 1850, at their residence in Huron township heretofore mentioned. Of the family who came to the Firelands in 1816, but two only are now living, viz.: Edwin and Cordelia.

Eli Halladay came to the Firelands from Vermont, in 1815; settled in Greenfield, Huron county; was one of the grand jurors, who, at the old county seat, east side of Huron river, indicted the two Indians, Negosheck and Negonaba, for the murder of John Wood and George Bishop, in the vicinity of the two "Harbors," on the Peninsula. The Indians were afterwards tried at Norwalk, found guilty, and hung in 1819.

Mr. Halladay, with his son Horace, came to Huron, in 1834, from Greenfield: for many years previous to his death, he officiated as deacon in the Presbyterian church; he was much beloved and highly respected by all who knew him, as a devout and amiable Christian; he died in 1849, aged 86 years.

Mr. Horace Halladay, now living in the village of Huron, was born in Marlboro, Vermont, October 12th, 1797; came to the Firelands with his father, and to Huron as heretofore mentioned; is now a member and a deacon of the Presbyterian church; in his 79th year, in reasonable good health, his many friends fondly hoping that his good health and life may be prolonged for many years to come.

Daniel Reynolds came to the Firelands from Newberg township, Orange county, N. Y., with his family, in 1817; settled in Eldridge (now Berlin); was a resident of Huron township a few years, since settling in Berlin; after which, about 1870, he moved to Milan, in this county, and died April 28th, 1876, aged 92 years, less four days. Mr. Reynolds cast his first Presidential vote for Thomas Jefferson.

Isaac T. Reynolds, son of the above named, was born in Newberg, Orange county, N. Y., December 12th, 1805; came to the Firelands with his father in 1817; in 1829 he bought lot No. 11, Section 1st, in Huron township, now known as "Chestnut Grove;" moved onto it in 1831. He also bought adjoining lands in Berlin township, which, in connection with his land in Huron township, is ranked among the best farms in Ohio; and, as such, has drawn the first premium at one of the State Fairs. Mr. I. T. Reynolds served as one of the Township Trustees several years.

Mrs. J. W. Wickham is also a Huron pioneer from infancy, a daughter of Mr. Schuyler Van Rensselaer, Esq., deceased, who was one of the early pioneers of Huron county, came to Huron in the winter of 1832-33. He assisted Mr. Abiathar Shirley in laying off the town plat of South Huron in the spring of 1833.

Mrs. George W. Garritt is a daughter of the late William P. Mason, whose memory should ever be held in grateful reverence by the citizens of Huron for his liberal donation of $300 to the Huron Harbor Company for the purpose of building the Huron piers and opening the river channel previous to any appropriation by the United States, and whose industry and active business habits exercised a decided influence in directing the attention of the government to the importance of making the present Harbor improvements. Mr. Mason came to Milan in 1816 and to Huron township about 1827 or 1828. He died August 28th 1854, aged seventy-one years and four months.

Mr. Marks' parents immigrated to America while he was an infant. In the war of 1812 with Great Britain, soon after the burning of the city of Washington, in August 1814 by the British army under General Ross, Mr. Marks, then a youth in his seventeenth year, full of the spirit of liberty, and indignant at the gross and outrageous barbarism of the burning of our beautiful Capitol, like others of his young associates of similar spirit and patriotic love of country, enlisted as a private soldier; remained in the service until government had no further use for that portion of the army of which he was a member, when he was honorably discharged and now draws the usual pension granted by Congress to the soldiers of hat war, as a mark of just appreciation for their heroic services to their country.

Mr. Abiathar Shirley came to the Fire Lands and located in Danbury township on the Peninsula about the year 1810; moved from thence to Bloomingville and afterwards in 1828 to Huron. Bought the land now known as South Huron, laying it off in town lots in 1833, assisted by Mr. Schuyler Van Rensselaer (heretofore mentioned). Mr. Shirley died 24th of August, 1834, of Asiatic Cholera, after an illness of about six hours. Mrs. Shirley came to the Fire Lands with her husband in company with her father's family (the Ramsdells) whose descendants or many of them, live in the vicinity of Bloomingville, in this (Erie) county. Mrs. Shirley died January 1849; she was a lady of more than ordinary intelligence and whose numerous acts of benevolence and charity endeared her to many friends and especially to the poor and needy who were never suffered to go away unrelieved from her door,

RUSSIA TOWNSHIP—LORAIN COUNTY.

FROM AN ADDRESS BY HON. W. W. BOYNTON.

Russia is town No. 5, Range 18. It was originally drawn by Titus Street and Isaac Mills. 4,300 acres in tract 3, gore 6, range 12, was annexed to equalize it. Mills sold his interest to Samuel Hughes. Among the first names familiar to those living in the town, were those of Street and Hughes. The first settlement was in the northwestern corner of the town, north of the road leading from Webb's Corners to Henrietta. It was nearly contemporaneous with the settlement of South Amherst. Thomas Waite was the first settler. He moved his family from Ontario county, New York, in 1817, and took up his residence in Amherst until the spring of 1818, when he moved into Russia, took up a piece of land, and in a few years died. In 1820, the west road began to be opened, and Daniel Rathburn, and Walter and Jonathan Buck, with their families, settled in the town in that year. In 1821, the families of John McCauley, and Lyman Wakeley were added. They were followed in 1822 by Samuel T. Wightman and Jesse Smith, with their families. In 1823, John Maynes joined the settlement, and 1824, Meeker, George, and Jonathan Disbro, Daniel Axtell, Abraham Wellman, Israel Cash, Richard Rice, James R. Abbott,

and Henry and John Thurston took up their abode there. Some of these may have moved in, in 1823. They were soon followed by Elias Peabody, Samuel K. Mellen, Lewis D. Boynton, Eber Newton, Joseph Carpenter and others.

Whether the first school-house was built just north of Eber Newton's, or near the residence of Alonzo Wright, is in dispute. There was one at each place at an early day. When Black River was organized in February, 1817, by the Commissioners of Huron county, the lands adjoining the present township of Amherst on the south, were annexed to enable the inhabitants to enjoy township privileges. The inhabitants of Russia remained so annexed, until June, 1825, at which time, on petition of many of her citizens, she was detached from Black River by the Commissioners of Lorain county, and incorporated into a separate and independent township. The election of township officers was had at the log school-house on the hill near Wright's, in the summer of 1825, it being a special election ordered for the purpose of perfecting the township organization. At this election, George Disbro, Israel Cash, and Walter Buck, were elected trustees; Richard Rice, clerk; and Daniel, Axtell, justice of the peace. No settlement was made in the south part of the town until after the year 1832. The ground selected for the Oberlin Colony, as it was called at an early day, was an unbroken forest until 1833. In the spring of that year Peter P. Pease, one of the earliest of the Brownhelm settlers, erected his log cabin, opposite of where the Park House now stands, and on College ground. This was the first breaking in that part of the township. Street and Hughes had donated about five hundred acres of land to the contemplated "Oberlin Collegiate Institute," and had sold to its friends upwards of five thousand acres more, for the price of one dollar and a half an acre. The resale of this tract, at an advance of one dollar an acre, provided the fund that enabled the successful initiation and organization of the College. The annual report of the Institute in the second year of its existence (1834), among other things employed the following language: "One and a half years ago, its site was uninhabited, and surrounded by a forest three miles square, which has since been taken by intelligent and pious families, which have formed a settlement, called the Oberlin Colony, that will soon probably overspread the entire tract. This site was chosen because it was supposed to be healthy, could be easily approached by Western lakes and canals, and yet was sufficiently remote from the vices and temptations of larger towns; and because extensive and fertile lands could here be obtained for the manual labor department of the Institute, and for the settlement of a sustaining colony on better terms than elsewhere. Its grand object is the diffusion of useful science, sound morality and true religion, among the growing multitudes of the Mississippi Valley. One of its objects was the elevation of female character, and included within its general design, was the education of the common people with the higher classes, in such manner, as suits the nature of republican institutions." How well it has accomplished the grand object, and carried out this general design, its history already written, affords the most convincing proof. Planted in a wilderness, seemingly the abode of desolation, its nearest neighbor three miles away, it struggled on with opposition and derision, until its accomplished work gives it rank among the leading institutions of the land. It has graduated upward of sixteen hundred persons, and afforded instruction to about seventeen thousand. It has the happy satisfaction of having survived the odium, which attached to its defense of those principles

of freedom and equality, which received their crowning triumph, in the issue, and achievements of the late struggle for the maintainance of American Independence.

HISTORICAL ADDRESS.

BY A. D. SKELLENGER, M. D.

Prepared by the committee, and delivered at the Centennial Celebration at New London, Ohio, July fourth, 1876.

Friends and Citizens of New London and Vicinity:—Selected as we have been by you to prepare and read a short historical address, we appear before you to make an attempt to discharge our duty. This historical portion of our celebration, is in compliance with a joint resolution of Congress and the proclamation of U. S. Grant, President of the United States of America. The day, July Fourth, 1876, in connection with the event, its centenary parent, 1776, and the uniting consequences, are enough to overwhelm the mind of a historian. No one can picture in microscopic miniature the ten thousand thrilling events the wonderful stride in civilization, science, art, philosophy, wealth, power, conquests, and the millions of inventions and rapid successions of material improvements of the last one hundred years. One hundred years ago this day, the then Congress of thirteen feeble colonies put forth to the world that matchless document of civil and religious liberty, the Declaration of American Independence. Who among the living can tell what mighty changes have been wrought through these ever vital principles; not only in these United States, but throughout the world? We will not pause to make any reply to this question; you may answer it by your own intelligence. On this Centennial occasion it is expected of us to confine our remarks to subjects more local than the whole United States —to Ohio—Huron County—New London and vicinity.

One hundred years ago Ohio may be said to have been in the possession of the French, though by the treaty of Paris in 1763, England obtained the title. For nearly one hundred years before this time France claimed under the name of Louisiana all the territory of the (now) United States northwest of the Ohio river, and had established forts on the Mississippi, Illinois and Maumee rivers and along the shore of the great lakes. Thirteen years after the Paris treaty, we find the colonies disputing with England for possession, and the title to the northwest territory was ceded by the Crown of Great Britain, September 3d, 1783, to the United States. Mr. Oswald, on the part of the British Crown, proposed to the American Commissioners that the Ohio river should be the western boundary; and history says that had it not been "for the indomitable spirit and perseverance of the revolutionary patriot John Adams, one of the American Commissioners who opposed the proposition and insisted on the Mississippi, the probability is, the proposition of Mr. Oswald would have been acceded to by the United States Commissioners." Thus it was that by the inflexible and determined honesty and patriotism of one man—John Adams—Ohio, with the balance of territory as far west as the Mississippi river, was saved to the country, or we might to-day have been a portion of the Empire of Great Britain! A little more than a century ago, the Moravian missionaries, in their nonsectarian labors of Christian peace, had established several places of worship among the Indians, and in 1775 had 414 converts; and had it not been for envy, malice, and sectarian spite, on the part of the Protestants, and warlike jealousies among the Delawares, historians would never have given Marietta the credit of being the first settlement in Ohio. It was among these missionaries that the first white child, of Christian parents, were born in what is

now the beautiful State of Ohio. Mr. E. Lane, in his address, says: "On the sixteenth of April, 1781, Keeleweldee was born at Salem. She is the first child of white parents born within the line of Ohio. I believe she is still living, at Bethlehem in Pennsylvania." The date of this address is 1862.

At the eightieth anniversary (April 7th, 1868,) of the settlement of Ohio at Marietta, Judge S. K. Este, of Cincinnati, read the following letter:

"BETHLEHEM, February 17, 1859.

I was born April 16th, 1781, in Salem, one of the Moravian Indian towns in the present county of Tuscarawas, State of Ohio, being, so far as can be ascertained, the first white female child born of parents residing in that State.

JOANNAH MARIA HECKEWELDER."

The conclusion is that "Joannah Maria Heckewelder" is the same person Judge Lane has called "Keeleweldee." She was a daughter of John Heckewelder, "who was a missionary sent from Bethlehem, Pennsylvania, and in the fall of 1781 they were taken prisoners by Indians to Detroit. After being released they were taken to Bethlehen."—*Extract from the Cincinnati Gazette.*

When was the State of Ohio permanently settled? or to put the question to the school children present, we put it in this form: When, where, and by whom was this State settled? The question ignores the Mound Builders of many centuries ago, the French occupancy along the lakes and rivers, the missionaries among the Indians, and we answer April 7th, 1788, at Marietta, so named from St. Marie Antoniette, then Queen of France; under the supervision of General Rufus Putman, son of old General Putman, who made himself famous in the Revolutionary struggle for liberty a few years before. "The original settlers were 47 in number, and from the States of Massachusetts, Rhode Island and Connecticut." By an act of Congress, July 13th 1787, the northwest territory was erected, and General Arthur St. Clair, having been appointed Governor, he landed at Fort Harmar, on the following 9th of July. Thus you see we have persons living in New London older than the first settlements in Ohio—a state of three millions, grown from the wilderness in the lifetime of one person! Ohio became a State by the meeting of her first legislature, March 1st, 1803, and on the 3d following, the 4,564 votes were counted and the speaker—Mr. M. Baldwin—declared "Edward Tiffin, Esq., duly elected Governor of the State of Ohio."

HURON COUNTY.

Friends, we know the details of history, especially when localized, are rather dry and uninteresting to a popular assembly, and still more so on the fourth of July, 1876. Yet you, if about to erect a fine edifice, would dig deep for a solid foundation. So when we take up the county of Huron, we desire to know something of its early history *before* it became organized, and *when* it became an organized county.

We have just established from the last published report of Wm. Bell, Secretary of State, when the first legislature met and its speaker declared (March 3, 1803,) "Edward Tiffin Governor of the State of Ohio." But we find upon closer study that neither the State of Ohio or "the United States owned or had rightful jurisdiction over a foot of land west of Cuyahoga." "By the treaty of Fort McIntosh, all the territory between the Cuyahoga and the Maumee (then called the Miami of the Lakes) was acknowledged to belong to the Wyandots (then called the Hurons), Delawares, and such Ottawas (then called Tewas) as were settled on it." It was not till July 4th, 1805, by the treaty of Fort Industry, that the Indian title was extinguished to the land west of the Cuyahoga and the Firelands became a

substantial instead of an imaginary possession. Between 1806 and 1808 the Firelands were surveyed into ranges and townships and sections; and many Indians yet occupied the ground. A range extended from the lake on the north to the south line of the Western Reserve; or 41 degrees N. latitude, south side of Ruggles, or Huron county; five miles in width, twenty-five in number from east to west; and the township numbered one on the south and counting north to the lake.

By an act of the Legislature, passed February 7th, 1809, five ranges off the west end of the Connecticut Western Reserve were set off and named Huron County; and to quote the language of the act which reads: "By the name of Huron, to be organized whenever the Legislature shall hereafter think proper, but to remain attached to the counties of Geauga and Portage as already provided for by law, except as hereinafter provided: that Almon Ruggles be, and is hereby appointed Recorder of the County of Huron, and continue in office until said county is organized." Cuyahoga county was organized in May, 1810. Thus you see Huron was really set off from Geauga and Portage. January 31st, 1815, an act was passed by the Legislature of Ohio organizing Huron county, and on the first Monday in April following the legal voters in the several townships were required to "assemble at the usual place of holding elections, and elect their several county officers." Also, by the same act, "all that part of the State of Ohio lying westwardly of Huron county and northwesterly of the south line of the Connecticut Western Reserve," was "attached to Huron county for judicial purposes."

It should be remembered that "Old Huron" county embraced the Firelands, now Erie and Huron counties and Ruggles township, in Ashland county. At the first fall election for Governor, in 1816, there were cast for Thomas Worthington 40 votes, and for Ethan Brown 42 votes, making only 82 votes in all.

Huron county as it was before portions of its territory became parts of Erie and Ashland counties, was first settled along the lake shore and the mouths of its rivers; owing to its proximity to the French settlements in Canada and the route of Eastern Yankees being along the shore of Lake Erie.

Huron appears to be the historical spot; and John Baptiste Flemmond, a Roman Catholic Frenchman, born in Montreal, Canada, in 1770, (according to Mr. Francis Graham's, of Ashland, autobiography and account of the man) first permanently came and lived, owned his farm, and died where he lived, upon the Firelands. Graham says he came in 1805, but Mr. Hosea Townsend, of New London, says that Flemmond repeatedly told him he came in 1790. In either case, it was prior to any of the Yankees coming here. The place was up the river for a mile or two, in early days called Fleming Cove, or Flemmond Inlet, on the east bank of the Huron river. Flemmond understood several Indian dialects, besides French and English; was a common friend to the white man and the Indian; an interpreter of French and Indian, and guide to Gen. W. H. Harrison in the war of 1812 and 1815 in the northwestern army. Much of the time between 1815 and 1819 he was employed by Mr. Francis Graham in his store at Huron and various trading posts in several counties adjacent thereto. In the arrest, trial, (May 21st, 1819,) and execution of the two Indians, Negonaba and Negosheek, for the murder of John Wood and George Bishop, in the year 1819, at Norwalk, we find John B. Flemmond one of the most important persons, engaged as witness, interpreter, guide, and one of the executioners. Hundreds of weary pioneers found their first repose and comforts in his store and cabin. The early surveyors in 1806 found rest and

repose with him, and Hoyt says he was still there on their second survey in 1807 though then the Indians had gone. He married for his wife Elizabeth Pollock, in 1811, daughter of Mr. Pollock, of Huron. For an uneducated man in "book-learnin," he was a very remarkable and accurate person. Graham says of him: "He did not possess the benefits of an education, but had a good intellect and one of the most retentive memories I ever knew. His memory may be said to have been his day-book. He was a man of strict integrity and very prompt in meeting engagements. If he had given his word in any case he thought it a great dishonor not to fulfill promptly." Mr. Graham adds: "He possessed a remarkable gift of enumeration—would sell customers, say ten or twelve items of goods, some of them of considerable value, and would give the amount with great accuracy." According to the most reliable data, he died about 1827, leaving a wife and two children. "Fleming Cove" took its name from him. He is called Fleming and Flemonte and Flemmond. In account of the Huron County Commissioners where he is paid $44.00 for Indian services, May 19th, 1819, and Sept. 9th, 1819, for hanging Indians, his name is John B. Flemmond. We have been thus particular in this matter, that the *first permanent settler* on the Firelands and old Huron county should not be robbed of his rights (as many have shown a disposition to do) in this item of history.

We will now give the dates of the first settlement of some of the townships of this county, and under this division of our subject, for the want of time, and for your benefit, we shall be very brief, as detail of dates and individuals are necessarily tedious.

NORWALK

Sellick Comstock purchased the first land within the township of Norwalk, in 1810, a part of it now occupied by Philo Comstock. The first permanent settlement was not made until 1813 or 1814, by (1st) Abijah Comstock, (2d) Benjamin Newcomb, (3d) Samuel B. Lewis in 1815. Norwalk became the county seat in 1818. The first, or only county seat was located at Avery, or Huron, two miles below Milan, in the year 1811. Where the village of Norwalk now stands there was no settlement until 1817. Now it is one of the most beautiful little cities in the State, with 6,000 inhabitants.

NEW HAVEN

is supposed to have been settled before any other township in the county, by Caleb Palmer, in 1810 or 1811. In 1811 Palmer put up the first house in New Haven. Very few of the early settlers in this county ventured to stay during the war of 1812–15. Palmer, Woodcock, and Johnny Chapman, known throughout all central Ohio as "Old Johnny Appleseed," who at this time lived with Palmer, remained. Palmer died in the village of New Haven, April 7th, 1854, aged 77 years.

GREENFIELD.

Hanson Reed has, by common consent, the honor of being the first settler in Greenfield; Erastus Smith, the second, in 1811; also the same year Wm. McKelvey, his son by the same name, and his son-in-law, Truman Gilbert, improved land and put in wheat the same year; harvested it in 1812, and left it in stack during the war, and on their return found it unmolested. Franklin D. Reed, born April 25, 1812, was the first white boy in Greenfield.

LYME

was settled by Hawks M. Trinder, Stubbs, and Sherwood, in the spring of 1811. They left during the war; Sherwood returned after the war.

WAKEMAN

was settled by Augustus Canfield, wife, two sons and two daughters, and Seymour

Johnson, his hired man, in May, 1817. Burton Canfield was the first child born and raised in Wakeman.

PERU.

was settled by Henry Adams, Elihu Clary, and Wm. Smith, (no women) in June 15th, 1815. In October following Mrs. Clary came, and was crowned the first white Queen and housekeeper in the township.

FLORENCE, (Erie Co.)

was settled by Ezra Sprague in the spring of 1809. In the same year Joseph Brooks, Sr., J. Brooks, Jr., Elias Barnes, Charles Betts and Jos. Parsons also came; Caroline Sprague was the first girl born in this township.

CLARKSFIELD.

The first settlers in Clarksfield were Mr. Stephen W. Post, wife and family. They had for a short time lived in New London township, before they settled in Clarksfield. Stephen Post, (a son) of New London village, says it was in the spring of 1816, but upon more investigation, we think 1817; at all events it was prior to the coming of Samuel Husted and Ezra Wood, of the Hollow. They came and erected a dwelling in June 1817, and left for Danbury, Ct. Mr. Celotus Barrett had done wood-chopping in the northern part of Clarksfield in 1816. The settlers of Clarksfield Hollow appeared to regard themselves as the Eden of former times, and did not know the inhabitants of the land of *Nod*, where old Mr. Post lived.

GREENWICH

was settled by Henry Carpenter, July 1817; his son Henry Carpenter, was the first white child born in the township. Carpenter died in October 1818. Varney Pearce, Esbon Husted, and Cyrus Mead, young men, came in February, 1818. The second family was that of E. F. Barker, who came in March 1818, and his son. Daniel G. Barker, and daughter, Alezina, now Mrs. D. W. Briggs.

RUGGLES

was settled in August, 1823, by Daniel Beach, wife and five children, and Bradford Sturtevant and family, (the land having been bought the spring before) accompanied by Eleasor Sackett and Ezra Smith. The next year, with only four families in the township, three of whom, with hearts overflowing with patriotism, held a 4th of July celebration at Mr. Sturtevant's. History says, "they had a feast, and for fireworks attempted to blast a large whitewood log, but it proved a flash in the pan." Ruggles at an early day was attached, as was also Clarksfield, to New London for "Civil Purposes." It was organized in 1826. The voters of the first election were only thirteen, viz: Peter Durfee, Harvey Sackett, Norman Carver, Truman Bates, Reuben Fox, B. Sturtevant, Jacob Roorback, A. Ferris, Justice Barnes, Daniel Beach, Ezra Smith and Aldrich Carver. For many years before white men intruded, the Indians had worked and manufactured sugar in Ruggles, at the forks of the river—the intersection of Buck Creek with the Vermillion river—on the E. T. Sackett farm. Wakeman Beach, now living in the township, was the first male child born in Ruggles—January 11th, 1825.

FITCHVILLE.

Fitchville was settled on the 7th day of May, 1817, by Peter Mead, Amos Reynolds and Abraham Mead, in the east part of the town where Trumbull Mead now resides. It was late on Saturday afternoon, the teams and wagons made an encampment for the night, the men, women and children lying on the ground under the wagons. The pioneers of Fitchville, like the surrounding townships, professed much piety. The "Wild Arabs" of New London, as they were styled, attended their first meeting. The

Townsend boys—Hosea and Hiram, were among the number. Abraham Mead had nine children in his family and must do something for their support; so he said to the New London boys, "It's the first time in my life that I have broken the Sabbath. I have covered with my hoe some potatoes." The children were much surprised to see the wild boys dressed in buckskin pants, and were thrown into much childish hilarity which offended the christian dignity of Mrs. Mead, who sharply reprimanded all present, and ordered the children "to get their books and read." Peter Mead claims to have been with the surveyors of the Firelands, to have made the journey to Connecticut and back a score of times, and sixteen or eighteen times on foot. Varney P. Mead, son of Peter Mead, was the first white child born in the township. Abraham Mead died in Norwalk, January 15th, 1851, aged seventy-six years. Peter Mead died on the farm in Fitchville in 1854, aged seventy-three years.

NEW LONDON

We have left our own township for the last not because it was last settled or because we regard it as of lesser importance. Our well known modesty may be assigned, in part at least, to our arrangement.

The township of New London was settled prior to any township adjacent, and the first settlement within what is now the village, was on the very farm where we are this day commemorating the glorious recollections and achievements a century ago, by Mr. John Cory, in 1816, one year before the village of Norwalk had an inhabitant. It is not our intention to say much of our own township on this occasion. All are supposed to know that it was first settled by Mr. Abner Green, wife and wife's three daughters, in the month of February, 1815. That he settled near what has been called Barrett's Corners, in the north of the township—now as we propose to call it and the new brick church, in honor of the President of the United States—Grantville. You are supposed to know your own history; that Mr. Green was a Revolutionary soldier; that he brought in this town on his back all the farming utensils and cooking apparatus and household furniture that he possessed, in a chest captured from General Proctor. He served as sergeant during the war of 1812. One of his wife's daughters, Miss Margaret Van Deuzen, was arrested on the charge of infanticide, and brought to trial at the old county seat in 1817, being the first lawsuit from this town and the first criminal suit in Huron county. She was acquitted. Several of the first settlers, viz: Abner Green, Paul Pixley, Isaac Sampson, were of Revolutionary fame. P. T. Porter, Sherman Smith, I. P. Case, Hosea Townsend, Henry King, John Buchanan, Stephen Pond, and several others served with more or less distinction in the war of 1812-15.

In the civil war of 1861-65 New London was as patriotic as her sister towns. It has to be recorded to her credit that no persons were ever drafted from New London. Every call and quota were promptly filled by volunteers. Among the many that went, some to die for the cause, and some to return, we may mention from recollection, are Newberry Barker, Aaron Turner, A. Brooks, Wm. Smurr, Dwight Hazard, Wm. Earl, Herbert Kilburn, Ed Truax, Hiram Ward, Chas. Merrifield, H. Packard. E. D. Runyan, Peter Saxton, Geo. Coleman, Orlando Ells, Chas. Rich, David Gates, —— Barrett, Emery Rossiter, —— Harris, —— Collins, Lester Case, and probably others we cannot bring to recollection gave their lives for their country. Some are buried in our cemeteries, and some lie in the warrior's grave in Southern fields. Among the officers returned we would mention Maj. D. H. Fox, Capt. R. M. Jackson, Lieuts.

S. D. Pond, H. C. Kilburn, Dr. A. McClellan, A. A. Powers, Capt. A. B. Chase, Gen. Sypher, W. H. and M. B. Runyan, Hiram Townsend, Geo. Knowlton, W. A. West, A. Bradley, R. McElroy, and many others. Even so humble an individual as your reader was mustered into the service of the United States and commissioned a lieutenant. That the children of a former generation have not retrograded in their love of country, in pure, holy, exalted patriotism, let this grand gathering this day before us bear testimony. Patriotism, in its broadest sense, is not confined to those who in an ardor of excitement gird on the carnal weapons of human blood and slaughter for the battle field; "peace has her victories, no less distinguished than those of war." The man or woman who faithfully devotes their time and energies in love of country and mankind is no less a patriot than he who goes to perish on the battle field in defense of principles. A Socrates, a Zenophon, a Sumner, or a Greeley, should rank as high among patriots as an Alexander, a Cæsar, a Bonaparte, or a Wellington. It is not always the man of blood who does the most heroic deeds, or whose life and examples are most worthy the admiration, commemoration or emulation of the youth of our land. Wars do as much to desolate and destroy a country as many years of philosophy, peace and labor do to restore it. The christian, statesman and patriot, commemorates the life of Jesus, devoted to acts of love, forgiveness and mercy, with as devout a joy as the soldiers of any army can that of their commander.

In conclusion, permit us to say that this day we are making history. Our very act of coming together to commemorate the centenary of American independence upon the farm first settled within the village of New London, where sleeps one of John Cory's daughters, the first buried in our cemetery, will perhaps, when we shall be as deep as our father now sleepeth, find some one to mention the event. Yes, we must be making history, and the desire of your speaker is that it may be recorded of us when we shall have gone to rest. "'Twas well for us that he lived in our midst." Farewell.

THE OLD LAWYERS OF THE FIRELANDS.

BY J. M. ROOT.

Ladies and Gentlemen of the Firelands Historical Society:

I have been invited to address you today, and I have accepted the invitation. The choice of the subject of my address has been left to me, but I may not have chosen wisely. Indeed, that liberty of choice has laid me under some embarrassment. It was no less my wish than my duty to avoid preoccupied ground, and to discourse of matters concerning which I had something more than ordinary information. The subject chosen may be thought too special, yet I cannot deem it entirely unworthy your consideration.

I shall speak of the Old Lawyers of the Firelands; that is to say, of those lawyers who had resided here and been admitted to the bar before 1830. Those who resided in the Firelands at the beginning of that year were Ebenezer Lane, James Williams, David Gibbs, Pickett Latimer, Thaddeus B. Sturgis, William H. Hunter and David Higgins, at Norwalk; Eleutheros Cook, Francis D. Parish, Luas S. Beecher and John Wheeler, at Sandusky; Philip R. Hopkins, Francis Kenyon and Ebenezer Andrews, at Milan.

Other lawyers had previously resided in the Firelands, but were not here then, namely, Mr. Epahhroditus Bull, at Danbury on the Peninsula; a Mr. Mott, Benjamin Drake and Charles L. Boalt, at Nor-

walk, and a Mr. Enos, at Paris, now Plymouth village.

And now I propose to take some brief notice of each of the gentlemen afore named in the order of time at which they commenced the practice of their profession in the Firelands.

Mr. Bull came with his family, consisting of his wife and three young children, from Danbury, Connecticut, and settled in our Danbury, where he owned considerable real estate in 1810. From persons who knew him well I have learned that he was a well bred, well educated and kind-hearted gentleman, very upright in all his transactions, and a lawyer of high standing, but his health was naturally frail and he had overworked himself in his profession. He did not come to the Firelands to get professional business, but to escape it. Moreover, he had his lands to improve and his family to care for in a very new country, and as the Firelands then and for many years afterward belonged to Cuyahoga county, nearly all the business which he did in court was to get townships organized, roads laid out and lands partitioned.

Shortly after the breaking out of the war between the United States and Great Britain in 1812 the Canada Indians made a raid upon the white settlements of the Maumee and Sandusky valleys. The new settlers on the Peninsula had but short notice of the approach of their savage foes, but they made the best of their time and fled, some one way and some another.

Mr. Bull, and his neighbor Wolcott, with their families crossed the bay to Sandusky, carrying with them little more than their clothing and beds, their camp and wagons, their books and a small supply of food and cooking utensils. From Sandusky they took the Lake Shore road to Cleveland. Mr. Bull was not well when he set out on this journey. On the way he became much worse, and when he reached Cleveland he was too ill to proceed further. He languished there a few weeks, and then died. His wife and children returned to Connecticut. His estate was sufficient for their support.

The next lawyer to settle in the Firelands was Mr. Cook. He was a native of the State of New York, where he resided until 1815, when, having been admitted to the bar he married. He and his wife, accompanied by the late Judge Samuel B. Caldwell and his first wife and Mrs. Cooke's brother, the late Mr. Henry Caswell descended in their keel boat from Chautauqua Lake by the Allegheny Rives to Pittsburgh, and thence by the Ohio River to Madison, Indiana, where they all took up their abode. The next summer Mr. Cooke having occasion to revisit his old home, made the journey by the way of our Bloomingville, and was there delighted to meet some old acquaintances, among others Colonel Charles F. Drake (still living, and may he live as long as life may be desirable to him), then a very young gentleman, but as ever a very courteous and obliging one. Col. Drake took his old friend to see the wonder of that time and neighborhood, to-wit, the new city of Venice, situated at the mouth of Cold Creek, on the south shore of Sandusky Bay, about four miles above the present city of Sandusky. The new Venice, under the management of Major Frederick Falley, was then growing apace, and expected soon to rival the first city of that name.

It so happened that on the same day that Messrs. Cooke and Drake visited Venice, Falley had a large public sale of city lots, and as he had not the title of the land, he could give the purchasers no more than contracts, and as the terms of very few were alike, and those of most of them were complex, it was necessary to have them written. Drake was quick to discover his friend's opportunity. He

stated that Mr. Cooke was a good lawyer, wrote a splendid hand, and was indeed a capital penman. He wrote rapidly and beautifully, and had an aptitude for conveyancing. When he had drawn the first contract he exhibited it and read it aloud to the parties and bystanders. The writing seemed to them as fair as copperplate print, and the grand words of the old forms which he had used plenteously, charmed them. Immediately fifty voices at least exclaimed, "Now write one for me." When all the contracts for city lots had been drawn, Mr. Cooke was requested to draw contracts of more importance, namely, contract for building mills, wharves and dwelling houses, etc., for constructing mill-dams, mill-races, roads, streets, ditches, etc. For his work he received liberal prices and cash in hand, and at the end of ten days had the satisfaction to find that he had earned and pocketed more money among the Venetians than he had acquired by all his professional labors in and about Madison.

Before proceeding farther on his journey he visited several other places in the Firelands, and was so well pleased with the country and inhabitants that he called on Judge Wright, who was agent of the owners and bargained with him for the purchase of some hundreds of acres of land at and about the place, since called Cooke's Corners.

Mr. Cooke's business in the State of New York detained him there until the next year, 1817, when he returned to Madison. As soon afterward as the necessary arrangements could be made, which was not until late in November, he and his family and their friends, the Caldwells, bid adieu to Madison, and took up their journey for Bloomingville, arriving there near the end of that year, and there rested for a time. Meantime Venice had almost ceased to be. Disease had taken many of its inhabitants to their graves and driven the rest away. Neither mills nor wharves had been built, the houses were deserted, and the late thrifty young town seemed desolate. Not many years afterward he removed to Sandusky, where he continued to reside until his death, which occurred early in 1865, at a good old age. He left an ample estate.

His venerable widow still lives in Sandusky.

Mr. Cooke practiced law successfully in the Firelands about twelve years. He was an animated, fluent and often an eloquent speaker. His style was florid and his manner was winning.

He had a fondness for land speculations and for agricultural pursuits. In the former he was generally successful; in the latter, seldom so.

He was not without political ambition. He was several times elected to the Legislature of the State, and in 1830 he was elected a representative in Congress, but before the next election the State was newly districted, and in such a way as to throw the Firelands into a district which was politically strongly adverse to Mr. Cooke. Nevertheless he was a candidate for reelection in 1832, and gave his opponent a lively contest, but the adverse majority was too great to be overcome.

No man knew better than Mr. Cooke how with a soft answer to turn away wrath. On an evening just before the election in 1830, a querulous old man was standing on the sidewalk in front of the postoffice, in Sandusky, and haranguing a small crowd of bystanders. He applied many opprobrious epithets to Mr. Cooke, supposing him to be absent, but while he was yet speaking the sufferer had, unperceived by him, come up and stood within a yard of his back. When the old man came to a stop, Mr. Cooke, gently laying one hand on his reviler's shoulder, and insinuating the other into one of his, in the blandest manner addressed him thus: "Why, my dear old neighbor, do you really think so?"

Judge Lane, with his family, settled at Norwalk in 1818. In the previous year they had removed from Connecticut to Elyria At Norwalk he immediately obtained a good practice, which improved continually until he was elected Resident Judge of the Court of Common Pleas in 1823. At the expiration of the term of that office he was elected to the bench of the Supreme Court, where he served continuously and with great credit until 184–, when he resigned his seat there and returned to the practice of law at Sandusky. For many years following, his professional business was large and profitable. He died at Sandusky in 1866, not much above the age of seventy years, leaving a sufficient estate.

Mrs. Lane is still living in Sandusky.

Judge Lane was a very industrious gentleman, a real lover of learning. He did not confine his reading to the law, but he was always among the first to discover meritorious new books on most interesting subjects. His manners were unassuming and modest, but he was ever sensitive to things which concerned his good name.

Take all in all, he was the most eminent lawyer of the Fire Lands.

Mr. Williams was a native of New Jersey. After having studied the law and being admitted to the bar and married, he with his family, accompanied by Mr. Hopkins, came to the Fire Lands about the year 1818. I do not know at what particular place or places they lived until about 1820, when Mr. Williams settled at Norwalk, where he resided afterwards as long as he lived, and for a while Mr. Hopkins stopped there or thereabouts to be near his friends.

Before coming to the Firelands Messrs. Williams and Hopkins had entered into a contract with the owners for the purchase of a large tract of land in Norwalk township on credit and speculation. That contract proved disastrous to them and kept them poor for years afterwards, but Mr. Williams did all the business he could get in his profession, was for some years prosecuting attorney and from 1830 to 1834 his practice was large and profitable. With its avails he was able to purchase on very advantageous terms an excellent farm adjoining Monroeville. With the profits of his farm and some small but lucky mercantile adventures, he purchased more lands adjoining his farm, which, together, made a fine estate.

Thenceforth Mr. Williams dropped his professional business as fast as he well could, and was seldom seen in the court-room after 1840. I think he liked the law well enough as a science, and must have studied it pretty thoroughly in his early manhood, but he did not like the practice of it. Nothing but necessity engaged him in that, and even while in full practice, something extraordinary was requisite to rouse him to the exercise of all his power on that kind of work, but when fairly aroused he was a formidable adversary. He had a tenacious memory, a keen wit and a high spirit. He read men as much and as well as he did books. Of books, though he read much, he read not many. A few authors, of whom perhaps Burns was his favorite, contented him. He was respected and beloved of his family, and therefore must have been kind and genial to them. So he was to such of his acquaintance as were neither knaves nor fools nor babblers, and had not given him what he thought was just cause of offence.

Mr. Hopkins, as has been observed, came to the Firelands with Mr. Williams in 1818 Of his previous history I have not much information. I can only say that he had been a student in Brown University, Rhode Island, where he acquired no little learning. He was well advanced in the knowledge of Latin and Greek languages.

In 1814 or 1815, while making a sea

voyage of the south shore of New Jersey, wherefrom, whereto or wherefore I know not, he was shipwrecked and cast ashore. He got to land alive and safe, but little more with him than he brought into this world.

Ere long he made the acquaintance of Mr. Williams, who pitied his misfortunes, respected his learning and admired his cheerfulness and wit, and the two became bound together by ties of friendship which were never severed but by death.

Mr. Hopkins must have been in New Jersey some four years before he came to the Firelands, during which time he taught school, read law, and wrote some historical tracts which were published and well received. He came to the Firelands a bachelor, and had no fixed place of abode until about 1821, whenhe settled at Milan, and continued to reside there as long as he afterwards lived. Not many years later he married. He continued to practice law until about 1846. For the first sixteen years he had a good deal of business. Afterwards he lapsed into real estate and mercantile speculations, which were invariably unsuccessful, and he became poor. For the last few years of his life he held the office of postmaster at Milan, and this, with a village lot, dwelling house and furniture (which I think belonged to his wife), sufficed for their support until his death. He died in 1851.

Of all the lawyers aforenamed none affords so good a subject for a biographical sketch as Mr. Hopkins; and if I felt competent for such a task I should be strongly tempted to transcend the limits of my discourse; but I must not do that; therefore I cannot say much more of him.

I have already mentioned that he was a man of wit, humor and learning, and of a cheerful temper; but he was more. He was not only witty himself, but he was the cause of wit in others. The combination of wit and humor in the same person is very rare, therefore I may perhaps be pardoned for giving a single specimen of his wit and humor in combination: Mr. Boalt had brought for a client of his a suit in the Common Pleas Court of Sandusky county to recover the value of a very long stack of prairie hay alleged to have been burned through the carelessness of the defendant. Mr. Coffinbury, of Mansfield, was the defendant's attorney. At first he plead the general issue, simply denying the plaintiff's charges. Afterwards Coffinbury, who bore patiently the nickname of "Count," being misled by his client, plead *"puis darrien, continuance,"* that is to say, "that since last continuance" the parties made accord and sales faction, or in plainer words had settled and satisfied the subject matter of the suit, and set forth in his plea a writing signed by the parties of that import. Mr. Boalt replied that the paper, though signed by the parties, had never taken effect, but had been merely deposited with a third person as an escrow, that is to say, to take effect only on the defendant's doing something more, which he had never done, but had got possession of the paper fraudulently. On the trial of this issue it was found for the plaintiff, and then there was nothing left to be done in the case but for a jury to assess the plaintiff's damages. It may be reasonably supposed that Mr. Boalt had in his declaration claimed at least as much damages as his client had sustained, but the jury found a verdict for more than a hundred dollars above the amount of damages claimed by the plaintiff in his declaration. The costs were about sixty dollars. Mr. Boalt thereupon moved for leave to amend his declaration by inserting his claim for damages on payment of the costs. Then the Count arose. His opening might be called volcanic; but the Court stopped him and overruled Boalt's motion, telling him that they would set aside the verdict unless he remitted the excess over the amount stated in declaration.

Then the Major went and took a seat beside the Count. There had been an irrepressible though perfectly good natured war between them for years. "Let me congratulate you on your victory over Boalt. You floored him handsomely, and he'll let you alone for a good while," said the Major, with the gravest face imaginable. "Umph!" said the Count, "he still gets a judgment for three times as much as he ought to have." "Well, that is rather hard on this one of your clients. I guess he's a rogue. You should be satisfied with the precedent you have established—one which will be of immense benefit to you and your clients in your future practice," retorted the Major. "How so?" enquired the Count; and thus answered the Major: "Why, it is not settled, as I take it, that however grossly you may be deceived by a client you can't by your utmost skill defend him into greater damages than the plaintiff demands in his declaration." And still both the Major and the Count were very grave, but there were loud calls for order from the Sheriff's box and the bench.

Mr. Gibbs was the next lawyer to settle in the Firelands. He came with his family from Connecticut about 1822 and built a house and resided on a farm belonging to Mrs. Gibbs, one and a quarter miles east of this hall, and near which she and their children owned a large tract of land. He had got but little professional business, when, a few years later, he was appointed Clerk of the Court, an office—or rather two offices—which he must have held as long as fifteen years, during all of which time he performed his official duties faithfully and acceptably. He was a gentleman of fine appearance and address, very affectionate to his family and much beloved by them. He died at his home in Norwalk in 1840.

Mr. Latimer came to the Firelands and stopped at Norwalk about the time that Mr. Gibbs did—1822. He immediately became associated with Judge Lane in a series of important suits involving the title to a large quantity of land in New London township, in which they were successful for their clients and got large fees for themselves. He had other professional business, and was for a time Prosecuting Attorney for the county, but about the year 1828 he gave up the practice of law and engaged largely in mercantile and manufacturing pursuits. He experienced many changes in his business, and cannot be called fortunate. He died at his home in Norwalk in 1861. He was a kind-hearted and public spirited gentleman, very kind and indulgent to his family, and strongly attached to his old friends. In the days of his prosperity he contributed liberally to the improvemont of his town and the development of the country about it.

It was, I think, about 1824 that Mr. Sturges came to and settled at Norwalk. He was a native of Connecticut; but he had read law and married in the State of New York, whence he removed to the Firelands. He practiced law at Norwalk with considerable success until about 1841. At that time he had acquired a comfortable homestead there, and some other estate, all of which doubtless appeared to him to be a small return for sixteen years of hard labor. He was in haste to be rich, so he turned from lawyer to merchant. For a while he wondered why he had not done so before, but in less than seven years he became utterly insolvent and almost brokenhearted. There seemed to him but one chance left for him to improve his fortune, and that chance he resolved to try as soon as possible. He had withheld from his creditors and his family, and from the knowledge of each and all of them, a few hundred dollars in cash. With this he set out for California overland. He seached the land of gold, but he never returned. He died there within a year after he arrived, in 1847.

Mr. Sturges was an affable, sprightly, nervous little man of a good deal of learning, and though not deeply versed in the fundamental principles of law, he was a good *case hunter*. Properly placed, as he sometimes was, he would do very effective work in his profession.

Mr. Kenyons first appearance at the bar of the Firelands was about the year 1824. He began practice at Milan. He never did much business in courts of record, but for many years he had an extensive *ride* as a pettifogger. He used to have one after another divers little farms in divers parts of what is now called Erie county, where he would attend to the litigation of his neighbors before Justices of the Peace and take his pay in their labor on his farm — two or three days' work of their work one of his. I think his last place of abode was at Florence, and that he died there many years since.

In or about this same year, 1824, the Mr. Mott whom I have mentioned made his first stop at Norwalk. He soon went to Mount Vernon, where he afterwards turned merchant and failed. About 1840 he returned to Norwalk and opened an office for the practice of law, and soon afterwards, by a lucky remark, got a case. A well-to-do farmer of Greenwich, well advanced in years, who though generally careless with his dress was never without at least one suit in court, whose first business after arriving at Norwalk was to take a good snifter—who had tried and tried of every lawyer within his reach, and whom everybody called Old Thad Fancher—was on a time rambling up and down the main street of Norwalk searching for "a lawyer of some account." Discovering Mott's shingle, he straightway entered his office, found him there, and addressed him thus:

"Are you a lawyer, sir?"

"Yes, and a pretty devilish good lawyer, too," answered Mott.

"Ha! Then you're just the man I've been looking for," replied Fancher.

Fancher thereupon gave Mott a case, which was called at two or three terms afterwards, but as I think never came to much. M ott got no other case in Huron county, and soon returned to Mount Vernon. If yet living he is about ninety.

Mr. Andrews settled and began practice about 1825. His professional business was not of a kind to require much display, and yet it paid very well. He had, beside, a profitable land agency, and dealt a good deal in lands. He was also interested in a mercantile establishment at Milan, and was successful in all his business adventures.

In 1854 he was elected Probate Judge of Erie county, and held that office for the full term of three years. About 1862 he removed to the city of Chicago, where within the next two years he died, leaving a good estate. His widow is still living in Chicago.

Judge Andrews was a well educated and even tempered gentleman, upright and punctual in all his dealings. His manners, though generally grave, were always kind and decorous and free from ostentation. He was a sober, just, and in the best sense of the words a respectable man and good citizen.

Col. Hunter came to the Firelands from Kentucky, and first settled at Norwalk about 1826. He got into practice slowly, and never got much. In the latter part of 1829 he received the appointment of Collector of Customs for the district of Sandusky, the emoluments of which did not exceed $700 a year. On these he subsisted until 1836, when he was elected representative in Congress. He was not re-elected, but subsequently he had for a short time some service under the Indian Bureau.

Col. Hunter had read much of the elementary principles of the law under the tuition of the celebrated Chancellor Bibb,

but he had neither fondness nor patience for the practice of law, and he never returned to it after his election to Congress, but he loved polite literature and had acquired much. He was very well bred and courteous gentleman, with a fine address, person and face, and altogether one of the handsomest men I ever saw; yet he never married. He was a man of sorrow and acquainted with grief, and died very poor in November, 1841.

In 1826 Mr. Enos settled at Peru, and had some practice, but he did not get a good start in his profession there, and in 1829 or 1830 he removed to Pittsburgh. If living still he must be over eighty.

About 1827 two young gentlemen residing at Norwalk were admitted to the bar.

Benjamin Drake, a young man of excellent parts, of fair attainments, and of great promise, was one of these.

I never saw him, for he had died before I came to the Firelands, but when I came, in 1829, his name was on every tongue, and none named him but to praise and regret him. He must have practiced in the Court of Common Pleas of Old Huron county, for I have seen in the files of that court pleadings drawn and signed by him in that clear chirography so characteristic of the Drake blood.

The other of those young gentlemen was Charles L. Boalt. Soon after his admission to the bar he went to Marion, where he remained until the latter part of 1829, when he removed to Columbus, and there he remained not more than two years—perhaps not much more than one, and then he returned to Norwalk, and immediately got into a large and profitable practice here, which went on improving for ten years, and continued to be good until he began to draw himself away from it, which was about 1846, though he did not quite abandon it until about 1854.

From 1846 until his decease Mr. Boalt devoted the most of his time and care to the construction and management of railroads and to dealing in their stock, in all of which he manifested extraordinary ability and achieved great success. He died at Sandusky, where he then resided, in 1871, having acquired and leaving a larger estate than any other lawyer in the Firelands. His widow now lives in Norwalk.

Mr. Boalt was as devoid of indolence as any man that I ever knew. His business, next after his family, was ever the object of his attention. Among the most distinguishing characteristics were energy and persistence, and he displayed those qualities as plainly in his recreations as in his most serious employment. He called on me once in Washington when the weather was very bad, and public evening entertainments were few. Of course I was glad to see him and desirous to make his short visit there pleasant. Among my messmates were some distinguished sociable and obliging gentlemen, and I had no difficulty in making up a euchre party, including Mr. Boalt and myself. We two were partners and victors. When the carriage which was to take him to his hotel was announced he took leave of the other gentlemen, and I descended to the front door with him. On my return to my messmates, one of them, though he had evidently been well pleased with Mr. Boalt, in a tone of affected reproach inquired of me if I had not told him that our friend Mr. Boalt played euchre. I answered, "Well, he did play hard enough to beat you;" and he then said: "*Played!* I never saw a man *work* harder in my life."

Mr. Boalt had domestic affections strong and steadfast, with lively social tastes. Indeed, he liked to see all about him happy.

Mr. Morgan resided in Sandusky a year or two, between 1827 and 1829. He got little business, and was not at all popular there. I know nothing of his legal attain-

ments. He was married and had trouble with his wife, or made trouble for her. The last that I ever heard of him was that he had left Cincinnati to go to New Orleans by the rivers, and as his habits were bad it is probable that he died long since. If still alive he is over seventy.

Mr. Wheeler came to the bar of the Firelands in middle age, about 1827, without much previous training for the profession. Of course his knowledge of the law was not great, but he had a good deal of natural shrewdness, which he often exercised with considerable effect in getting up testimony in litigated cases depending on fact, but he lay under too many embarrassments to practice law successfully, and gave up the profession about 1843. He died, leaving but little property, in 1849.

Mr. Higgins came to and settled at Norwalk in 1828, from Hamilton, Butler county, where he had practiced law for some years, and had been more than once elected a representative in the Legislature. In 1830 he was elected Resident Judge of Common Pleas, to succeed Judge Lane, who had been elected to the bench of the Supreme Court. He held his judgeship for the full term of seven years, and then resumed the practice of his profession at Norwalk, but not meeting with much success as he had expected, about 1842, went to Washington, where he obtained a clerkship in one of the departments, which he retained for more than twenty years.

In 1845 his first wife died in Washington, and though he was then full sixty years of age, within the next two years he married a maiden lady of less than half his years, who gave him a daughter that was married near ten years ago. He was living in Washington in 1866, over eighty years of age, but he has since died.

Judge Higgins had more knowledge of the law than he was generally credited with, but he wanted tact and had a kind of flightiness which impaired his usefulness and his popularity.

Of all the lawyers mentioned as residing in the Firelands at the beginning of 1830, none are now living but Messrs. Parish and Beecher.

Mr. Parish, now seventy-eight, lives on a snug farm near Sandusky, the management of which gives him sufficient and satisfactory employment.

Mr. Beecher, but one year younger than Mr. Parish, and blessed still, continues to practice law, assisted by his son and partner, Mr. John Beecher.

CHURCH HISTORY.

ST. PAUL'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH, NORWALK, OHIO.

BY C. E. NEWMAN.

In compiling the events about to be related, I must acknowledge myself indebted very largely to what I have been enabled to gather, first, from conversations with those who were eye witnesses and participators in the scenes and events of those times; second, from the journals of the early conventions of the Diocese of Ohio; third, from the records of the proceedings of the Vestry of the Church; and, lastly, from a personal knowledge derived from nearly forty years' participation, more or less active, in the events about to be narrated.

If any branch of the church is entitled to the honor of being the pioneer church of Norwalk, that honor seems due to the Episcopal. As early as the year 1818, the first public religious service of the town was held in the log shanty of the venerable and departed friend, Platt Benedict. That exercise consisted of reading the service of the Episcopal Church and a sermon by a layman. With more or less regularity these services were kept up for many years. From a letter kindly furnished me by F. H. Boalt, Esq., written by his grandmother, Mrs. Ruth Boalt, to her daughter, then living in Watertown, N. Y., dated Norwalk, Ohio, June 12, 1820, I have been permitted to make the following extract. She says: "We have no minister with us, but I have the pleasure to inform you that this Society meets at the Court House every Sabbath and reads the church service and a sermon. * * Lester read the sermon last Sabbath." Lester Boalt was the father of Frederick, and at that time was from sixteen to eighteen years of age, and was for many years a member of the vestry of this church, its warm friend and liberal supporter. The Rev. Dr. S. A. Bronson, one of our most esteemed and venerable clergymen, now rector of the Episcopal Church at Mansfield, Ohio, says in an address delivered May 8, 1859, before the Fire Lands Historical Society, "That as late as the year 1825, no settled minister of any name had ever resided in Norwalk and that in that year he came to supply as far as a layman could the place of a clergyman. No other church except the Episcopal had attempted to keep up regular services, and subsequently, when a clergyman did become resident here, the regularity of the service depended upon the established forms of religious worship as conducted by laymen."

In the year 1821, fifty-five years ago on the 20th of January last, a meeting of a number of persons of Norwalk and vicinity calling themselves members and friends of the Protestant Episcopal church of the United States was called in this village.

Platt Benedict was called to the chair and Wm. Gardiner was elected clerk. The following persons enrolled themselves as members or friends of the Protestant Episcopal Church; Platt Benedict, Luke Keeler, Amos Woodward, Wm. Gardiner, Ami Keeler, William Woodward, Gurdon Woodward, David Gibbs, Moses Sowers, John Keeler, John Boalt, Samuel Sparrow, Asa Sanford, Henry Hurlbut, E. Lane, William Gallup and Enos Gilbert. Seventeen in all, of whom but one, our friend Ami Keeler survives at this day.

At this meeting a motion was made and carried to organize the Parish of St. Paul's Church, Norwalk, and to adopt the Constitution of the Protestant Episcopal Church of the United States of America. Amos Woodward was chosen senior warden and Luke Keeler junior warden, E. Lane, clerk and the following vestrymen: Platt Benedict, John Keeler, John Boalt, E. Lane and Asa Sanford. Platt Benedict and Asa Sanford were chosen delegates to the Diocesan Convention, which was to assemble at Worthington on the first Wednesday in June, the fourth annual Convention of the Diocese of Ohio. As they had no regular clergyman and were desirous of sustaining the services of the church, they chose the following persons as lay readers: Platt Benedict, John Boalt Amos Woodward, Samuel Sparrow, and Ebenezer Lane. The meeting then adjourned to meet the next Easter Monday.

The organization of this church at this time was undoubtedly due to a visit to Norwalk of the Rev. Roger Searle, an earnest, pious missionary who came into the State in the month of February, 1817, and who had by his earnest labors already organized some five or six parishes in northern Ohio. Bishop Chase came into the State in March of the same year.

Rev. Mr. Searle made the following report to the Convention at Worthington, June 1821: "In the month of January I organized a respectable and promising parish by the name of St. Paul's Church, in Norwalk, Huron county. Much might be said in high commendation of this very interesting parish. Two of their members were appointed delegates to the Convention, but they have just informed me by letter that events beyond their control will prevent their attendance. Number of families, three; communicants, nine; baptisms, adults, two; infants, fourteen."

The Rev. Mr. Searle on the following Sunday, January 21st, 1821, performed divine service, which was the first by an Episcopal clergyman in Norwalk. He also on that day administered the rite of infant baptism to the following persons, viz: Louisa Williams, aged three years; Theodore Williams, one year; William Gallup, one year and Eben Lane, one year. This is the earliest record of the administration of the rite in our church. On the following day he visited the town of Florence and baptised six of the children of Ezra and Harriet Sprague, and on the same day returned to Norwalk, and baptized one adult, Henry Hurlbut, and also the children of John and Ruth Boalt, viz., Amanda, Clarissa, and Martha Boalt. These are all the services of which we have any record, that were performed by Mr. Searle during that visit. The first annual parish meeting was held according to adjournment on Easter Monday, 1821, at the Court House, when the following officers were chosen, viz., Amos Woodward and Luke Keeler, wardens; E. Lane, clerk; Samuel Sparrow, Gurdon Woodward, Platt Benedict, John Keeler and Noah Hill, vestrymen. Platt Benedict and John Boalt delegates to convention. No other record of church work is found until the eleventh of February, 1822, when Rev. Mr. Searle again visits the infant parish. On that day he baptises three of the children of Samuel B. and Amy Lewis, viz., Charles, Angeline and Betsy Ann, and during this visit after service on Sunday, February 17, 1822, he

baptized Platt Benedict, an adult, who for so many years was our worthy senior warden, ardent friend and supporter of the church, and for nearly forty years represented the parish in the Diocesan Convention. The witnesses to the baptism were E. Lane and Amos Woodward. On the same day the Holy Communion was also administered and is probably the first administration of that rite by an Episcopal clergyman in Norwalk.

On the next day, Monday, February 18th, 1822, a meeting of the vestry was held at the house of Platt Benedict and Rev. Mr. Searle presided. A vote was passed requesting Mr. Rufus Murray to perform divine service in this Parish, when he is properly qualified agreeable to the canons of the Protestant Episcopal church. February 13th, 1822, Rev. Mr. Searle baptized Lucy and Abishai Woodward, children of Gurdon and Mary Woodward, May 14th 1822, Rev Rufus Murray performed divine service and baptized Henrietta Colwell an infant child of James and Sarah Williams. June 23d and 30th, 1822, Rev. Mr. Hall performed divine service. Rev. Mr. Searle continued to visit the parish annually for several years. April 27th, 1823, January 26th, 1824, April 4th, 1825 and his last visit June 18th, 1826, at which visit he, on the nineteenth of June, joined in marriage Richard McCurdy and Julianne Woodward. Rev. Mr. Searle at his visitation January 26th, 1824, baptized Mary Amelia, daughter of Rebecca and Lewis Keeler, likewise Isaac, infant son of Eri and Sally Keeler. At this period Rev. C. P. Bronson came to Norwalk, and on the twenty-third of July, performed divine service and again on the twentieth of August, 1826, when at a regular meeting of the vestry an engagement was made with him for his services for such a portion of his time as funds could be procured to pay him. He was in deacon's orders, having been ordained the same year at the convention held at Columbus, on the seventh of June, 1826. He was also Principal of the Norwalk Academy and officiated a part of the time at Medina. He officiated the first year for only one-fourth of his time; the second year one-half his time. In his official report to the convention of 1827, he says: "The prospects of this church are encouraging, though the people are not so zealous as could be desired." He also reported a Sunday School of sixty scholars and a library of growing importance. I find, however, that the Sunday School which he reported was a Union Sunday School, and could not be claimed as an exclusive Episcopal School, although quite a number of those interested in the establishment of the church were actively engaged in this school. The next important event that transpired in the parish is that recorded in the minutes of the vestry and parish meeting, held April 6th, 1828, when it was resolved to build a church for public worship to Almighty God, and it was unanimously voted at that meeting to request the Rev. C. P. Bronson to journey to the east, to solicit donations for the purpose of aiding the parish to accomplish that object. The wardens and vestrymen passed a vote pledging themselves for the faithful appropriation of all moneys received. Mr. Bronson accordingly proceeded to the east and returned in the fall. At a meeting of the vestry held November 12th, 1828, he reported the result of his journey which was as follows: Contributions received from Brooklyn, L. I., $225; Dr. Milnor's Church N. Y., $205; New Haven, Connecticut, $34; Stratford, Connecticut, $21; Bridgeport, Connecticut, $100; Norwalk, Connecticut, $80; Stephen Lockwood, in timber, $20; Danbury. $22; Litchfield, $28; Newton, $30 and a communion cup; Waterbury collection, $20; Plymouth town collection, $21; Plymouth east parish, $4; Watertown, $4; Middletown, $50; Hartford, $102; Boston Trinity Church, $200;

Boston Christ Church, $50; collection in Christ's Church, Boston, $30; Sunday School, $7; Sunday School in St. Paul's Church, $3.25; Individuals, $25; Ladies' Tract Society, $25; Canandaigua, $25. Total, $1,331.25.

This generous response of the friends of the church at the east, encouraged the vestry to proceed at once with the construction of a church building. At a vestry meeting held February 2d, 1829, it was resolved to build a church fifty feet long, and thirty-six feet wide, with a projection in front two feet by thirteen feet wide surmounted by a tower thirteen feet square in the Gothic style of architecture, (which was just the dimensions of the church edifice for twenty years after it was completed and until the enlargement, which was made during the rectorship of Rev. E. Winthrop, in the year 1853, over twenty years ago, when an addition of two windows on each side was made, thus giving an additional length of twenty-five feet.) The vestry proceeded at once to lay off the ground and let the contract to build the church. Mr. Bronson had not only been successful in procuring funds, but had received large donations in books. At a vestry meeting held March 20th, 1829, a committee consisting of Amos Woodward, Eben Boalt and Platt Benedict, was appointed to select from those received such as were suitable for a parish library, and to dispose of the balance of them and apply the funds towards building the church. The committee performed their duty and reported a catalogue of the books selected, which has not been preserved.

In connection with the sale of these books I will relate an incident that occurred, which I learned from an interested party in the transaction. A young lad of some six or seven years, a son of one of the church families, had saved up some pocket money, and when Mr. Bronson's book store opened he obtained the consent of his mother to go and purchase himself a book. Not being a very good judge of the contents of a book he made his choice by the number of pictures that it contained. After looking them over he selected one, paid his fifty cents, and returned home. His mother asked him to show her his book. Upon examining it she said: "my son, this is not a suitable book for you. This is *Hoyle's Games*, you must take this back and make another selection," which he did, and has in his possession to this day the book he selected last.

At this point there is a break in the records and were it not for two or three short resolutions, nothing could be gathered from the minutes to tell us why. One of these resolutions, passed by the annual meeting of 1830, is as follows:

Resolved, That Eben Boalt, Amos Woodward and E. Lane be a committee to take such measures, as in their discretion they may deem advisable, to secure, the payment of the money received by Mr. Bronson as a donation to the parish, and also put an end to the contract to build the church.

The other resolution was passed at a meeting held August 21st, 1830, and is as follows:

Resolved, That the delegates to the convention have full authority to take such steps, to secure a satisfactory settlement with Mr. Bronson, as they judge expedient.

Anything farther than this the record is silent. But the trials that the church passed through at that time made too deep an impression upon the minds of those who were conversant with them, to be easily forgotten. Although nearly fifty years have come and gone, the memory of those events remains. It is sufficient to say that only a small portion of what the kind and generous friends of the church at the east, gave to aid the church in Norwalk to erect their house of prayer, ever reached the object for which it was contributed. But let us not forget

that in our hour of need willing hands were open, and generous contributions were sent to our relief; and may we who now so richly enjoy all the privileges of a well organized church, and the preaching of the blessed gospel of our Savior, ever remember the thousands who are destitute of them, and are reaching out to us and begging us of our abundance to help them to the same blessings we so richly enjoy.

The connection between Mr. Bronson and the parish was severed in 1829. Also the connection between Mr. Bronson and the ministry of the Episcopal church. The project of building a church at that time was abandoned. For nearly three years the parish was destitute of a clergyman. At the meeting of the parish on Easter Monday, 1833, a call was extended to the Rev. John P. Bausman. The date of the commencement of his services was February 16th, 1833. Salary, $400 per year for two-thirds of his time. He was a very earnest and faithful preacher and he is still held in grateful remembrance by all who knew him. His stay in the parish was only about one year. A single resolution passed at the only vestry meeting held during the year 1834, of which we have any record, is that of a meeting held at the office of Williams & Boalt, January 6th, 1834, where it was resolved to circulate a subscription, for the purpose of retaining Mr. Bausman's services another year, commencing February 1st, 1834. No report of the result of that effort is recorded, and although Mr. Bausman had so endeared himself to the church he had to leave for want of an adequate support. After Mr. Bausman had left the church was supplied by the services of a young man, a candidate for orders, a Mr. Eaton who acted as lay reader. Services were held in the old Court House. I remember very distinctly a little incident which made an indelible impression upon my memory. It was this; while reading a sermon one morning he paused, closed the book, and asking the indulgence of the congregation, proceeded to make some very earnest remarks on the subject under consideration. They seemed so timely and in such good taste, that although the subject itself is forgotten, the incident is still remembered. It will be remembered by some of the older members of the parish, that it was in connection with these services held at the old white Court House, that that primitive method of calling the congregation together, the noted, historic tin horn of our friend Ami Keeler was used as the hour of service drew near. Although its sound was not so harmonious as those of our sweet toned bells of the present day, yet its summons was as cheerfully obeyed and the service to which it called fully as much appreciated. That we may have some faint idea of the difficulties our pioneer fathers labored under, in order to secure the means to support and sustain those who labored among them in the church, I give a bill with its explanation, which was presented to the vestry at this time.

"June 13th, 1834, Mr. Eaton came to board at my house and remained until the first day of September, being in all eleven weeks and three days, for which I charged $16.00. At his leaving us it was thought advisable to make a collection for him, and to pay me for his board, or at anyrate to get something for Mr. Eaton, and it was concluded that I should go around amongst the people and see what I could collect. I accordingly went and collected $13.00 as follows: James Williams gave $3.00; John V. Vredenburgh, $2.00; C. L. Boalt, $2.00; Mr. Patrick, fifty cents; Eben Boalt, fifty cents; Ebenezer Lane, $5.00. After I had made the above collection, Mr. Lane said that it was best to give Mr. Eaton all of the money, for he was in need of it; but I gave him only $12.00, and gave the other one to my

daughter towards paying her for washing his clothes. L. KEELER.

It was during the fall of 1834, that the Rev. E. Punderson came into the parish from the state of New York. I well remember the first service held by him. It was in the basement of the old Methodist church on Seminary street. It was a stormy Sunday and the ground was covered with snow. My father, who lived three miles south of the village, had brought a full load from his neighborhood to church. There were some ten or twelve of his own family and neighbors loaded upon a rude sleigh, and with an ox team we were conveyed in good time for the opening service, and I well remember seeing the tall form of the clergyman, in his black gown, coming through the driving snow, followed by quite a number of persons to the place of service. Mr. Punderson received a call January 1st, 1835, and remained in the parish for about four years, officiating a part of his time in Trinity church, Lyme. Mr. Punderson had many warm friends, but on the whole his ministry was not characterized by that harmony and good feeling which is so eminently desirable. Difficulties arose which required the counsel, advice and authority of the Bishop to settle. Mr. Punderson's connection with the parish was dissolved December 31st, 1838. The successor to the Rev. E. Punderson was the Rev. Anson Clark, of Medina, who was called to the Rectorship of the parish July 2nd, 1839. Mr. Clark continued to minister to the congregation with a very great degree of acceptance until September, 1840, when on account of his feeble health he sent to the vestry his resignation, having determined to spend the winter in the South. To show the kind feeling that existed between Mr. Clark and the vestry, I will give a resolution passed by them at the reception of his resignation, which is as follows:

Resolved, That the vestry view with concern the symptoms of ill health, which render necessary the dissolution of the relations between this church and the Rev. Mr. Clark, and while they yield with regret to that necessity, they cannot but express the hope that a Southern climate will prove more congenial to his health and that in the good Providence of God, he may obtain that confirmed strength which shall enable him to pursue with renewed energy his useful labors in the cause of the Redeemer.

Mr. Clark went South and remained until February, when he returned and was again called to the Rectorship of the church February 23d, 1841, and remained until June 24th, 1841, when he resigned to take charge of St. Philip's church, Circleville. After the resignation of Mr. Clark the parish was without a Rector until November. The vestry met August 17th, 1841. and extended a call to Rev. J. J. Okill, of New York, which he accepted, and took charge of the parish November 1st, 1841. His ministry was brief but very brilliant. He was an attractive preacher from what we can learn of him and his course after leaving the parish. We can make no better comparison than to liken him to a brilliant meteor, that flashed across the path of the church to dazzle for a short time, and whose light soon went out in darkness. He resigned November 14th, 1842, to engage as he claimed in a larger field of usefulness. The successor of Mr. Okill was the Rev. Alvon Guion, who was called to the parish and commenced his labors December 18th, 1842. Mr. Guion's salary was to be $375, but if the vestry found it inconvenient to pay that amount he was to accept $350. Mr. Guion although not a brilliant preacher was a most excellent pastor, and with the help of his amiable and kind wife did most effectual work in the parish. Mr. Guion had long been engaged in missionary labor in the Diocese, and had been most faithful in looking up the scattered members of our church

throughout the State, and gathering them into flocks where they could be fed by the spiritual shepherd of our Zion. More than 20 parishes owe their existence to the faithful and self-denying labors of Alvon Guion. He never remained long in one parish. After once organized and a church built, his particular work seemed to be done. and another destitute field found him again at work. He only remained in Norwalk about one and a half years. He resigned May 2nd, 1844. gratefully remembered and loved by all who knew him. After the resignation of Mr. Guion, the Rev. Sabin Hough, of Michigan, received a call and took charge of the parish September 30th, 1844. The terms of the call were such that the connection could be dissolved upon three months' notice. Salary $400 per year, with house rent free. Mr. Hough continued Rector of the parish a little less than two years. About the first of May, 1846, he sent the Secretary of the vestry the following letter:

NORWALK, OHIO, May 8th, 1846.

To the Vestry of St. Paul's Church:

DEAR BRETHREN:—I am about to perform the most solemn, and in many respects the most painful duty that has ever devolved upon me. At my ordination I solemnly promised to preach such doctrines as the Lord hath commanded and as this church hath received. But there are several of the leading doctrines of the church which I now believe to be greatly at variance from the principles of eternal truth. I cannot, therefore, preach them any longer. And it certainly cannot be right for me to occupy the pulpit of the Episcopal church for the purpose of preaching what the church does not believe. Such being my convictions you cannot, as conscientious christians, have any wish to see me again enter the pulpit of your church, and you will, of course, unhesitatingly accept my resignation, and release me from the obligation of giving you a previous notice.

"And now, brethren, I commend you to God and to the word of his grace which is able to build you up and to give you an inheritance among them which are sanctified."

Most sincerely and affectionately your friend and pastor. SABIN HOUGH.

A meeting of the vestry was immediately called and the resignation accepted May 11th, 1846. Being Secretary of the vestry at that time, upon the receipt of the note I called upon Mr. Hough. He was living in the house now occupied by our friend Mr. N. G. Sherman. As I entered the house I found him lying on the floor, groaning and shrieking as if in the agonies of despair. After a short time becoming somewhat composed, he related to me the cause of his grief. It was not that he had renounced the doctrines of the church, but that what he had done would bring reproach and shame upon Bishop Mellvaine, whom he so much loved and respected. He said the Bishop's enemies would say that it was the result of his peculiar teachings. The church was without a Rector for nearly a year. On the 7th of April, 1847, a call was extended to the Rev. Edward Winthrop, of Marietta, a subscription having previously been raised pledging him a salary of $500 per year. The call was accepted and Mr. Winthrop took charge of the parish and continued its Rector until the year 1854, a period of seven years, when on account of the loss of his voice he was compelled to resign. To show the value of Mr. Winthrop's services and the great appreciation in which he was held by the congregation and vestry, I will give the correspondence that took place between him and the vestry at the time of his resignation.

To the Wardens and Vestry of St. Paul's Church.

GENTLEMEN:—In the opinion of my

physician, the state of my health requires that I should quit public preaching till my throat is well, and though I am aware that you are perfectly willing to wait any reasonable time for my recovery, and that you deeply regret the necessity of a discontinuance for the present of this part of my ministerial labors, yet as I feel that the good of the parish demands that the pulpit should, as soon as possible, be regularly supplied, I hereby respectfully tender my resignation of the Rectorship in the hope that you will do me the favor to accept it—said resignation to take effect as soon as you have the services of another Rector. I thank you for your kind sympathy and cordial co-operation; and while, in this dissolution of the pastoral connection between us, as well as in the other events of my life, it becomes me to acknowledge, with devout submission, the hand of him who doeth all things well, I am the more reconciled to this official separation as I leave the parish peaceful and united and with unusual seriousness prevailing among the people, so that having been your Rector for almost seven years, I rejoice that, by the blessing of the Lord on the public and private preaching of his word, I can hand over the parish, to whomsoever you may appoint as my successor, with the field white for the harvest and with every reason for thankfulness to the giver of all good. With my best wishes and most fervent prayers for your temporal and spiritual prosperity and that of the church you represent, I am very truly and affectionately yours in the Gospel.

EDWARD WINTHROP.

The answer, which was drafted by the late C. L. Boalt, Esq., a member of the vestry and warm friend of Mr. Winthrop, is as follows:

Rev. and Dear Sir:—The vestry of this church having accepted your resignation as our Rector, the relation of pastor and people which has so happily existed between us for the last seven years is now terminated. Until recently we had hoped we might still have the benefit of your ministrations among us for many years to come, and we deeply regret that your continued ill health now compels you to withdraw from the pulpit, and seek some other employment. Yielding to the providence which separates us, we make use of this appropriate occasion to express to you the sense, of not the Wardens and vestry only, but of the whole congregation, of your faithfulness in fulfilling the arduous duties of your situation. We shall ever remember with pleasure the warm and affectionate intercourse that so long existed between us, the often and earnest appeals you have made to us, and the purity and consistency of the life you have led among us. Whether you remain in our vicinity or wheresoever your lot may be cast in the future, you may be assured you carry with you the prayers and best wishes of your late charge.

Platt Benedict and O. Jenny, Wardens, C. L. Boalt, G. P. Birdseye, S. Patrick and C. E. Newman, Vestrymen.

Before the vestry had accepted the resignation of Mr. Winthrop several unsuccessful efforts were made to secure an assistant for him, so unwilling were the vestry and congregation to part with him. Several clergymen who have since become very noted in the Church were either called by the vestry or corresponded with, viz.: Rev. Noah H. Schenk, now rector of St. Ann's Church, Brooklyn—the Church from which Bishop McIlvaine was called when he was elected Bishop—Rev. Samuel Hazelhurst, of Philadelphia, who was called and came and officiated one Sunday, and Rev. Chas. Edward Cheeny, now Bishop of the Reformed Episcopal Church, Chicago. It was not until June 26th, 1854, that the vestry were successful in obtaining a successor to Mr. Winthrop. At that date

they called Rev. George Watson, of Owego, N. Y., who accepted the rectorship at a salary of $800, with the understanding that his place for the first few months should be supplied by his son, Rev. G. W. Watson, then assistant minister of Dr. Lee, of St. Luke's, Rochester, N. Y., which arrangement was accepted by the vestry.

Dr. Watson came in the fall of 1854 and continued to minister to the parish until June, 27th, 1864, a period of nearly ten years—the longest by about three years of any minister who has had charge of the parish. He was followed by Rev. Henry Tullidge, who was called March 25th, 1865, remained two years and resigned April 22d, 1867. Mr. Tullidge was succeeded by Rev. Wm. Newton, who was called May 8th, 1867, remained three years and resigned June 26th, 1870. He was succeeded by Rev. H. H. Morrell, who came October 1st, 1870, and remained three and one-half years, resigning April 6th, 1874. He was followed by Rev. R. B. Balcom, our present incumbent, who took charge of the parish July 15th, 1874.

The first Episcopal visitation that the Church received was that of Bishop Chase, on Sunday, August 14th, 1825. The services were held in the Court House. The Bishop preached both in the morning and afternoon, and in the evening catechised and exhorted the young. The next day he officiated at a funeral, performing the service and preaching, and I am informed by Dr. Kittredge, who remembers the circumstance, that the person whose funeral the Bishop attended was a stranger who died at the hotel. There being no clergyman in Norwalk, he consented to officiate. The next day he went to Portland, preached and performed the burial service, and then went to Mr. Woodward's, in Lyme. In giving an account of this visitation, the Bishop in his address to the Convention, 1826, remarks as follows: "Though brevity in my narrative is indispensable, I cannot refrain from stopping to record some things which have touched my heart's best feelings and given a new and most interesting direction to our endeavors to concern the natives of our land. Some time ago I had heard of the scattered remnants of the Oneida and Mohawk Tribes who still retained the use of our Liturgy, once taught them by the British missionaries when they resided under that government. And it was my most anxious wish to see and converse with them. This wish it pleased God most graciously to gratify. I paid them a visit, setting off from Mr. Woodward's after divine service and a sermon. We lodged at Mr. Cowles', the last house in the white settlements.

"The morning of the 18th of August, 1825, gave some hopes of a fair and pleasant day, but it proved otherwise. The sky was soon overcast, and a dark gloom hung over the forests, already dark and gloomy by the thickness of the deep green foliage. Our way was nearly west, towards the Sandusky River, and lay through a pathless desert, with hardly a trace to guide our steps; but confident in the goodness of our cause and the protection and blessing of the common Father of men and nations, we set forward. The beauty of an open oakland scenery for a time cheered us, but it soon changed to a thick dark under-leafed forest, in which, having missed our path, we traveled in the rain, it was judged, five and twenty miles before we reached the huts of the Indians we were seeking. To us, wet, hungry and waysore, these little shelters from the storm appeared like the abodes of comfort. Some aged men and women of the Mohawks, fit emblems of their tribe, once vigorous, now in decay, met us at their lowly cabin doors. My worthy friend and guide, the Rev. Mr. Coe, who had seen and known these inte-

resting people before, now told them my name and errand. I passed around their little settlement, and the evening and the morning were spent in trying to do them good. I found them not like heathens. They had known Jesus, their Creator and Saviour, from their youth, and the liturgy and formularies of the Church of England, with part of the book of Genesis, and the Gospel of St. Mark, translated into their own language, A. D. 1787, had been the blessed means by which this faith had been taught and handed down from their forefathers. What a comment this, on the great utility of the Scriptures with the formularies of primitive devotion! And what an overpowering refutation is this of the ungodly objections, made to the Christianizing of the heathen, by diffusing the light of the Holy Bible among them! From this instance of God's blessing on the means, let Christians take courage. Their bread being cast by faith on the waters of God's providence, shall return blessed after many days; and though now through much persecution, from the hosts of infidelity, they go on their way weeping, yet, if they persevere, the whole world will, like a ripe field of corn, come to the Christian faith with joy, and bring their sheaves of holy fruits with them.

"Divine service was performed with these Indians on the morning of this day; though it rained incessantly, they came in goodly numbers, and seemed with one heart and voice to join in the responses, as the prayers were read by myself and repeated by an elderly person in their language. By their apparent simplicity and godly sincerity I was reminded of the accounts given us of the Apostolic worship.

I could not part from these most engaging people without giving them some hopes of being benefited by the school, which had been committed to our care through the bounty of their former benefactors. I promised to take several of their young men and boys, board and educate them, looking to God for means and ability to support me in so great expense. And here I cannot resist the desire to connect the sequel with the beginning of their history, though it destroy the order of my narrative.

Soon after my visit to the Mohawks, on the Sandusky River, I mentioned the subject casually in a letter to the Secretary of State, and he most kindly mentioned it to the Secretary of War, at whose judicious disposal is committed a small fund for benefitting the natives. Through these means God was pleased to bless the object I had in view. After performing my tour I went again from my home, in the month of November, in my own carriage, for the promised Indian lads. The distance from my residence to their dwellings in the woods is 100 miles. The weather was cold, and the road a part of the way very bad. Yet God enabled me to bear the fatigue and crowned my errand with success. Six of the Mohawks came with me, four of whom I have seen proper to retain at the school as lads of great promise. Since that one of another tribe has by a private gentleman, been placed at the school.

The goodness of God appeared especially when, on my arrival at my dwelling with my interesting charge, I found on my table assurance from the Secretary at War that I should be indemnified for their maintenance and education. Government will allow me $100 per annum apiece for six. Before quitting the subject I cannot but add, for the benefit of the friends of this part of the human family, that the youths above mentioned, viz.: John Heron, John Buckingham, Joseph Heron and John White, have behaved themselves with great propriety, have improved much in their learning, and attended to every duty with great cheerfulness; particularly have they

seemed to take delight in reading and committing to memory the words of Holy Scripture, and to join with great devotion in the exercises of daily worship. How they will bear temptation when once more thrown into the corrupt company of the baser part of our own color, who prowl around our frontiers to destroy them, I know not. They need the prayers of all, that God would convert their hearts and cause their morality to grow on the only legitimate stock, true faith in the Lord Jesus Christ. In a direct line it is 15 miles from the Mohawk dwellings to Mr. Woodward's, to whose house I rode after preaching to the Indians, and by whom I was most hospitably entertained."

Bishop Chase made one or perhaps two other visitations to Norwalk during his Episcopate in Ohio, but no mention of any except the first is made in his addresses to the Convention, and no record whatever have I been able to find. Father Jenney thinks he was here during 1827, and if so it was at that visitation that the first confirmation in the parish took place. The parish records for 16 years (from 1824 to 1840) were unfortunately destroyed by the fire that burned the dwelling of Rev. E. Punderson.

Bishop McIlvaine's first visitation took place September 14th and 15th, 1833. I give the report of it in his own words. He says: "After preaching in the Presbyterian Church at night, in Mansfield, on the 13th, I proceeded to Norwalk, held a private meeting for conversation and devotional exercises that evening, and the next day (Sunday) preached three times in the Court House, confirmed three persons, administered the Lord's Supper, and made a collection of $8.52 for the diocesan missionary society." (The three persons confirmed that day were Mrs. Lane, wife of Hon. E. Lane, Mrs. Benedict, wife of Platt Benedict, and Mrs. Vredenburgh, wife of John Vredenburgh, they being the first confirmed by Bishop McIlvain in Norwalk.) The Bishop continues: "At that time a church edifice of sufficient size and of neat appearance was under roof and seemed to require no great effort on the part of the parish to prepare it for us. I am sorry to learn that since then hardly anything has been done to it, and that the congregation are still in the occupancy of the Court House. Little in general can be expected, beyond the mere keeping of the flock together, till it is provided with a place of worship exclusively appropriated and in some degree adapted to the purpose of its worship and ministry. The parish is now vacant by the removal of the Rev. Mr. Bausman, for some years a faithful, beloved and very useful Presbyter of the diocese of Ohio, to Michigan. Public worship har been conducted and sermons have been read since Mr. Bausman's departure by Mr. Eaton, a candidate for orders from Gambier." Bishop McIlvaine's next visitation was June 26th, 1836—one and one-half years later —at which time the Church was consecrated.

The first attempt to build a church was in the year 1828, but owing to the troubles of those times not much was done until 1834. The cost of putting up and enclosing the building was $850. This was done by Mr. Benedict. The finishing of the church was done by Mr. John Prentiss at an additional cost of $1,200, making the entire cost of original building about $2,020. It was not completed until the fall of 1835. It was consecrated by Bishop McIlvaine, June 26, 1836.

The enlargement of the church was made in 1853. The contract was let to Mr. Salem T. Howe and Baxter Howe, his father; price about $1,300. It was found, however, by the building committee that the old part needed a new roof, which was provided, also new stoves and pipes, which cost in all nearly $1,500. During

the enlargement our congregation worshiped a part of the time in the Methodist Episcopal church and a part of the time in the Presbyterian church, were kindly loaned to us at that time. The committee that had charge of those repairs were O. Jenney, B. Silva, T. Williams, Giles Boalt and C. E. Newman. The repairs were not completed until late in the fall of 1853. It was at the first service held in the church after all was completed that we had a very providential escape from fire. It was just at the close of morning service that a disturbance was noticed in the gallery, and smoke came up through the floor directly under the feet of the choir. The congregation was very summarily dismissed, not even waiting for the benediction. The alarm of fire was immediately given. The fire was caused by the great heat of the stoves in the hall at the church entrance. The pipes being too near the ceiling, they had fired the wood-work above them, and the connection to the tower being complete, the fire entered it at once, and it seemed to all for a few moments that our church must be burned; but the timely assistance of the neighbors in the vicinity, who had been alarmed by the great volume of smoke proceeding from the tower, soon extinguished it and saved the church.

The next improvement of any importance was that of building our Sunday School chapel, which was commenced in 1863 but not completed until 1864. The corner-stone was laid by Bishop McIlvaine on the thirty-first of October, 1863, with an address from him and appropriate ceremonies. There was deposited in the corner-stone, enclosed in a sealed tin box, a roll containing the names of the scholars and teachers, in the Sunday School at that time, journal of the convention of 1863, pastoral letter of the House of Bishops, 1863, Bishop McIlvaine's charge at convention, 1863, portraits of Bishop McIlvaine and Bedell, and by request of Bishop McIlvaine a portrait of Platt Benedict, senior warden, also a number of other articles.

The chapel was constructed under the supervision of the following building committee, appointed by the vestry: Platt Benedict, O. Jenney, Giles Bloat and C E. Newman; the whole expense of which, including the furniture, was $4,000, of which amount the senior warden, Platt Benedict, generously contributed about $1,500, being over one-third of the whole.

The vestry met May 29th, 1867, and passed a resolution to build a parsonage, appointing as the committee to take charge of the construction of the building, H. M. Wooster, Giles Boalt, D. Higgins and C. E. Newman. The building was completed during that year at a cost of $6,000.

At a vestry meeting held June 26th, 1837, a resolution was passed instructing Shubel Newman to contract with A. Backus, Esq., of Troy, New York, for an organ, price, $660. The contract was made and the organ sent on during the fall of 1837. The money was not all paid down, and Mr. Robsohn, the maker of the organ, had much difficulty in collecting the debt. The vestry being unable to raise the money, the organ was at one time in the hands of the sheriff. It was, however, after a time, all paid.

The organ has been in use nearly forty years. No wonder that her voice has become a little wheezy. For nearly a quarter of a century it stood in the tower end of the church in the gallery, back of the congregation, exposed to the extremes of heat and cold and all the inconveniences of a leaky tower. After enduring such treatment for so long a time uncomplainingly, it was thought best to give her a more conspicuous position, so a seat was prepared for her in front of the congregation at the right of the pulpit. Here she bore her honors well and behaved with much decorum, and did her duty

nobly, so much so that for the first time in thirty years she was granted a leave of absence for a few months. She improved this vacation by taking a journey to the east and spending a few months in visiting the city of Cleveland. On her return a manifest improvement was visible, both in outward appearance and in the tone of her voice. But in the opinion of many of the congregation, she, like many a country maiden who visits the city, affected too much of city style, and instead of returning and performing her sober and earnest duties, as of old, adopted an independent style, and no longer deigns to use her voice in leading the congregation in the good old tunes of olden times. May we not hope that she will see the folly of such a course and once more condescend to speak to us, occasionally, at least, in the time-honored, grand and majestic notes of St. Martin, Duke Street, Hebron, Dundee, or Old Hundred?

It was not until 1868, more than twenty years after the building of the church, that a bell was placed in the tower. During that year a bell was purchased of A. Meeneley, of Troy. Cost of bell, $359.61; expense of freight and placing in tower amounted in all to about $400.

If time would permit, I should be glad to notice somewhat the origin and progress of the Sunday School, but the briefest mention possible must for this occasion suffice. The first mention or effort of which we have any record is that made by the vestry at a meeting held at the house of Platt Benedict on the second day of February, 1835, when it was "*Resolved*, That a Sunday School be established as soon as the church is ready for public worship, and that Mr. J. V. Vredenburgh be requested to solicit subscriptions to purchase books, and to purchase the same when funds are procured." This resolution was carried out. The school was organized in the spring of 1835, under the rectorship of Rev. E. Punderson. He reported to the convention of 1836, that the attendance was flattering, but soon became reduced in numbers and irregular. Two ladies, Mrs. Punderson and Mrs. Vredenburgh, composed the corps of teachers, Mr. Punderson conducting a catechetical class. The school struggling along, having a sickly existence for many years and numbering from fifteen to fifty scholars. The school was conducted by the rector, no layman being found in the parish who had sufficient interest to take charge of it. Thus whenever there was a change of rectorship and the church was without a pastor, which was quite frequent, the Sunday School was discontinued.

This state of affairs continued until the rectorship of Rev. Edward Winthrop, in 1847, when an earnest and pious layman, Mr. J. D. Whitney, who came to Norwalk as cashier of the old Norwalk Bank, became the Superintendent of the school. At this time a library of some 300 to 400 volumes was purchased, and new life and vigor seemed to be infused into the school. Mr. Whitney soon surrounded himself with a band of earnest teachers, who gathered in the children to the number of nearly 100. The school continued prosperous during the time of Mr. W.'s superintendence. He removed from town about July, 1849, and since that date the school has been under the present supervision, a period of 27 years. It would be very pleasant to review the history and work of the school and speak of many of those who have been faithful laborers in this portion of the Lord's vineyard, and if permitted it would give me much pleasure on some future occasion, to recount before the school and all those interested in its welfare its history, but for this time this must suffice.

As a matter of curiosity and as a suggestion to the vestry I will read one of the rules introduced for the government of that body nearly forty years ago, mere-

ly hinting that if it had been strictly enforced from that day to this the finances of the church would be in a very healthy condition. It read as follows: "At each meeting of the vestry, immediately after the Chairman takes his seat, the names of the members shall be called and absentees noted by the Secretary. The minutes of the preceding meeting shall be read, and any member absenting himself from any regular meeting shall be required by the Chairman to give an excuse for his absence; and if it be not accepted by the vestry the delinquent shall be subject to a fine of not less than five nor more than fifty cents."

From a copy of an old Journal of the Convention of 1831, kindly furnished me by Mr. Reding, I find that the parish was in arrears for the Convention funds at that date, (a situation which has sometimes existed since that date,) but by a vote of the Convention the debt was generously forgiven. The amount assessed upon the parish had been for the two years past $1.50 each year, and the same amount continued to be assessed until 1835. when it was raised 25 per cent., making it $2 a year. As late as 1840 it was only $6. The present assessment for 1876 is represented by the same figures as those of 1830—46 years ago—only we have the significant suffix of two ciphers, making the amount $150, instead of $1.50, which only goes to show the difference in the expense and the increase in the magnitude of the church between then and now.

During the 55 years of the existence of the church the following persons have filled the office of senior warden: Amos Woodward, 12 years; Platt Benedict, 27; Luke Keeler, 4; S. Patrick, 3; O. Jenney, 5; Giles Boalt, 2. Office of junior warden, Luke Keeler, 9 years; P. Benedict, 7; Eben Boalt, 5; O. Jenney, 21; S. Patrick, 1; E. Peters, 6; G. Boalt, 3.

Our friend, Obadiah Jenney, was elected member of the vestry and appointed collector for the church as early as 1828, having served a longer term than any other member except Mr. Benedict. C. L. Boalt was first elected vestryman in 1832, and until 1864 was, with the exception of a few years, an active and useful member of that body. John V. Vredenburgh became a member in 1828, and served the church in that and other capacities for nearly 20 years. S. T. Worcester, James Williams, Daniel Mallery, G. P. Birdseye, Shubel Newman, Shepherd Patrick, W. F. Kittredge, J. R. Bowes, D. Higgins, L. Reding, Stephen Gibbs, Amos Parks, Justus Hurd, Henry Brown, M. W. Goodnow, J. D. Whitney, Walker Hurd, and C. E. Newman were all members of the vestry previous to the year 1850, more than a quarter of a century ago. Sixteen different persons have served the church as Secretary of the vestry, as follows:

Judge Lane, from the organization of the church in 1821 to 1828; Levert Brady, from '28 to '32; C. L. Boalt, from '32 to '35; Edward M. Phelps, from '35 to '36; S. T. Worcester, from '36 to '37; John A. Finn, from '37 to '39; C. A. Preston, from '39 to '40; Theo. Williams, from '40 to 46; C. E. Newman, from '46 to '51; C. B. Stickney, from '51 to '53; C. E. Newman, from '53 to '58; L. D. Strutton, from '58 to '63; C. B. Stickney, from '63 to '65; D. Higgins, from '65 to '69; H. S. Mitchell, from '69 to '73; F, H. Boalt, from '73 to '74; R. Goodnow, from '74 to '76.

I have been requested to speak of one of the old members of the church whose eccentric conduct will cause him to be long remembered by those who knew him. I refer to Charles Betts, who lived over twelve miles from Norwalk, near the center of Florence, Erie Co. He came to Florence as early as 1810, from Connecticut. He was a man of liberal education and it was said of him that he was come

to prepare himself for the ministry. He was ardently attached to the church and manifested his attachment by his regular attendance at the services, although residing over twelve miles distant. I am informed that he had been known to come with an ox team and be in time for the morning service. His usual mode of conveyance was on horse-back, and he always brought two horses so that he could change, riding one part of the way and then the other, saying that it was too much for one horse to carry him the whole distance. His saddle was one of his own make, and was formed from the forked branch of a tree, on each side of which a board was nailed and then all covered with a sheep-skin or old cloth. Mounted on this rude saddle with his large saddle bags, one side containing his lunch and the other his prayer-book, he would perform the journey, John Gilpin like, at a rate of speed that would always bring him in in good time. On arriving at the church-yard he would unroll a log-chain or huge rope from the neck of his horse and proceed to fasten the animal to a post which he had planted near the north end of the horse shed. He one day came in with his ox team and sled, on which was a huge log which he deposited in the church-yard near the hitching post for a horse-block. It is only a few years since that the last remnant of Charles Betts' horse-block was removed. His death occurred in the year 1846, and the sad, tragic manner in which he met his end will long be remembered. A brother came to visit him about six months before his death. He was an intemperate, worthless fellow, and staid with him at his cabin on his farm, where they lived alone. Being missed for a day, the neighbors mistrusted foul play. Search was made, and his mangled and bruised body was found under the barn covered with straw, having been brutally murdered by his brother with a pickax and secreted there. The brother was tried for murder found guilty and sentenced to the Ohio Penitentiary for life, where he remained for fourteen years, until his death.

All the neighbors who knew Charles Betts spoke of him as a kind hearted, innocent, inoffensive man, honest in all his transactions, but very eccentric. His old saddle-bags are now deposited in the museum of our Historical Society, as a curiosity, having been presented to the Society by our fellow citizen, Mr. George M. Darling, to whom I am indebted in a large measure for the above facts.

And now I have only time to mention by name a few of our honored fathers and mothers who were active and earnest laborers during the earliest years of the church, and whom, I trust, we hold in grateful remembrance; and although it is many years since their bodies were commended to the tomb, "earth to earth, ashes to ashes, dust to dust," still it is sweet to recall the memory of those we so much loved and reverenced. As I have no record of church membership I have to speak from memory, and many names may be omitted. Among those I call to mind are the following: Amos Woodward and wife; John Boalt and wife; Platt Benedict and wife; Luke Keeler and wife; Wm. Gardiner and wife; Eben Boalt and wife; S. B. Lewis and wife; Justus Hurd and wife, and Mrs. Booth; Shubel Newman and wife; David Higgins, wife and daughter; Mrs. Mary Farr; E. Lane; James Williams and wife. Daniel Mallery and wife, who I believe are still living with their daughter in Wisconsin, were for many years very useful and active members of the church.

There are many other events of interest which it would be very pleasant to recall, and many individuals who have done laudable service in connection with various branches of church work whose names might be mentioned, but time will

not permit. I have already taxed your patience too long; but I cannot close this brief history without a passing tribute of respect to one to whom the Episcopal Church in Norwalk owes a larger debt of gratitude than to any other human benefactor—Father Benedict—for to him and his efforts we owe the possession of our beautiful grounds, so ample, so pleasant and so appropriate for the purposes for which they are used. We are also deeply indebted to him for the early establishment of the church in this village and for the strong hold it has upon this community. There was no enterprise for the benefit of the church but always found in Mr. Benedict a warm friend and a liberal contributor. Many years ago he placed in the hands of the vestry the title to a tract of land worth some $700 or $800 as an inducement to build a rectory, which he frequently and earnestly urged them to do.

A few years before his death, feeling that in all probability his days were nearly numbered, he made the following remarks: "God has spared my life to a remarkable old age. I do not know why, unless He has some work still for me to do for His honor and glory." After a few days he consulted with the rector of the church and informed him that he would make a liberal contribution towards building a room to accommodate the children of the Sunday School, if it was thought best to build one. The rector immediately wrote to Bishop Bedell, informing him of Mr. B.'s proposition. The Bishop replied promptly, thanking Mr. B. for what he purposed doing and saying that he could not have conceived of anything that would be of more value to the church. This resulted in the erection of our S. S. Chapel—a monument to the kind and generous heart of our venerable friend, without whose liberality it would probably never have been built.

Still further, and in perfect keeping with the whole course of his life and his affection for the cause of Christ and his Church, his last will and testament made generous provision for the support of the Sunday School, the preached Gospel, the education of young men for the ministry, and the spread of the gospel in foreign lands—objects always dear to his heart, and to which he was a regular and generous contributor during his long life.

The undersigned, one of the committee who were appointed to cause to be prepared for publication, by the Firelands Historical Society, a history of each denomination in the Firelands, and whose duty it was to prepare the history of the Universalist denomination, presents the following:

In preparing a history of a religious denomination, it seems very desirable to collect all that can be obtained of their movements anterior to their having any Society or Church organization.

In December, 1821, Rev. Truman Strong, of Knox county, commenced preaching in Peru. This was the first Universalist preaching on the Firelands. From that time he continued to preach occasionally to the friends in Peru and vicinity, sometimes once a month, until a society was organized, in 1827. In the fall of 1823, Rev. Nathan Baldwin Johnson, of Knox county, moved into Norwalk township, and remained till the spring of 1825, about eighteen months, preaching half the time in Peru, the rest of the time in various places in the vicinity,—Pipe Creek, Bloomingville and Strong's Ridge.

On the 27th of September, 1828, the brethren of Peru and vicinity met at the house of Alden Pierce, of Greenfield; organized by appointing Robert S. Southgate chairman, and Elihu Clary, clerk. On motion, the brethren present resolved to form themselves into a society for social intercourse, and to raise funds for

the support of the Gospel in their vicinity.

R. S. Southgate, Benjamin Washburn and Elihu Clary were appointed a committee to draft a constitution. The committee for that purpose presented a constitution, which was adopted by the meeting. R. S. Southgate, Monson Pond and B. Washburn were elected Trustees; Elihu Clary, Clerk, and B. Washburn, Treasurer. This was the first Universalist Society formed in the Firelands.

On the 24th of February, 1834, an act was passed by the Legislature of the State of Ohio, incorporating this Society as a body corporate and politic, by the name of the First Universalist Society of the County of Huron. This Society was fellowshiped by the Richland Association; and on the 1st of September, 1828, Benjamin Washburn and Monson Pond were appointed delegates to represent this Society in the Richland Association. The Society continued to send delegates to the Association till the formation of the Huron Association. Two meetings of the Richland Association were held in Peru.

May 30th, 1840, a meeting was held in Berlinville, Erie county; Rev. Reuben Farley was appointed Moderator, and Martin Kellogg, Secretary, when the following resolution was passed:

Resolved, That a new Association be formed, embracing the Counties of Erie, Huron, Seneca, Sandusky and Wood, to be known by the name of the "Huron Association."

Noah Hill, Monson Pond and Rufus Cowles were appointed Committee on Discipline; Rev. R. Farley, Rev. S. Hull and M. Kellogg were appointed Committee on Fellowship and Ordination, and Dean Clapp, Standing Clerk. Luther Loveland, S. Hull and Johnson Wheeler were appointed a Committee to draft a Constitution, to be submitted to a subsequent meeting. At a meeting held in Peru, September 19th, 1840, there were delegates from societies in Florence, Berlin and Peru. Johnson Wheeler (from the committee for that purpose) presented a Constitution, which was read and adopted. Rev. R. Farley, M. Pond and M. Kellogg were appointed Committee on Fellowship and Ordination; J. Wheeler, C. Keith and P. Roreback, Committee of Discipline; R. Farley, Standing Moderator; Dean Clapp, Standing Clerk. R. Roreback and Abram Barker were appointed delegates to represent this Association in the State Convention.

At an Association held in Sandusky City, May 27th, 1843, Esau Preston, Alonzo Smeed and Aaron Rogers received letters of fellowship as preachers. At an Association meeting held in Peru, May 25th, 1844, J. R. Johnson, Alonzo Smeed and Aaron Rogers were ordained to the gospel ministry.

January 20th, 1838, a church was formed, by the name of the First Universalist Church of Peru, by adopting a profession of faith, a declaration and constitution, and choosing as officers to said church Monson Pond and Apollos Fay, Deacons, and Comfort Eaton, Clerk.

Since the formation of the Society, January 1st, 1863, one hundred and twenty-eight names have been enrolled; present number, forty-nine. On the church book have been enrolled one hundred and twenty-three names; present number, seventy-five.

In the month of April, 1828, Rev. Truman Strong made a regular engagement with the Society at Peru to preach once a month, which he did for a number of years. In the summer of 1841, he engaged to preach twice a month. In 1842 he moved to Peru and preached there three-fourths of the time for more than two years. Since the Society was formed in 1827, the following ministers have been employed statedly, some for shorter and some for longer periods of time: Truman Strong, Reuben Farley, A. A. Davis, Geo. R. Brown, J. R. Johnson, A. Smeed, T. C.

Eaton, Simeon Hovey, E. R. Wood, B. F. Gibbs, S. Hull, Alpheus Sweet.

Societies have been organized in Florence, Berlin, Huron, Sandusky City, Hartland, Ripley, Greenfield, Sherman and Greenwich. In most of these places there has been stated preaching. Owing to deaths, removals, etc., most of these societies have lost their organizations. There was once a church formed in Huron. Meeting house built in Peru in 1840.

The Society in Sandusky City had stated preaching some length of time, by Rev. J. R. Johnson and Rev. S. Hull. Rev. H. P. Sage preached once a month for two years in Berlin, Florence, Hartland and Clarksfield. Subsequent to this he preached in Wakeman once a month, for a year and a half, and in Hartland once a month for three years. He is now preaching once in two weeks for the Society in Greenwich.

At an early day Rev. Asher A. Davis preached, for some time, once a month, in Norwalk. Preachers who were employed by the Society in Peru, for one-half or three-fourths of the time, preached the rest of the time in Greenfield, New Haven, Berlin, and other places in the vicinity of Peru. Rev. S. Hovey, who had been preaching for the Society at Peru for one-half the time for two years and a half, closed his labors with that Society last fall and moved to Michigan. Rev. G. R. Brown, who has preached for most of the Societies on the Firelands, is now preaching once a month for the Society in Peru, (1863).

Since the formation of the Huron Association, an annual meeting has been held each year, and three quarterlies each year for most of the time. The Association meetings have been held in the following places: Peru, Berlin Center, Huron, Sandusky City, Clyde, Republic and Tiffin.

In 1863–4 Rev. H. R. Nye, now of Brooklyn, N. Y., preached in Peru one-half the time for a few months, laboring the rest of the time in various places in the region round about. Early in 1864 Rev. C. L. Shipman preached a few times in Peru, but made no regular engagement.

On the 26th day of June, 1864, Rev. H. L. Canfield commenced preaching in Peru. On Sunday evening, December 1st, 1867, he preached in the Court House at Norwalk, and from that time divided his labors between Peru and Norwalk, preaching in both places on the same day for several years. Under his labors the Peru church steadily prospered, adding, in eight years, two thousand dollars to the value of its property, increasing its membership by forty-five names, and giving five thousand dollars for the cause of education and for home missionary work.

At Norwalk a church has been organized, numbering at present fifty-six members. A flourishing Sunday school has been gathered, and a house of worship is now nearly completed, which, with the lot on which it stands, is worth $15,000.

The several Societies which were organized years ago in various townships on the Firelands, which were mostly built temporary organizations for the purpose of securing preaching, have disappeared.

The Society in Peru still maintains its corporate existence. Besides this, there are at present three well organized churches on the Firelands; namely: Peru, Norwalk and Margaretta. Each church owns a good house of worship and maintains regular preaching.

It may be well here to name some of the preachers of other denominations who preached on the Firelands at an early day. James McIntire, a Methodist preacher, was the first preacher I ever heard in Ohio; and his first sermon I heard was in Bronson, July 6th, 1816,—the funeral sermon of Benjamin Newcomb, who was killed by the kick of a horse. Mr. McIntire lived in New Haven in an early day, afterwards in Greenfield; was a local preacher many years; preached very fre-

quently in Peru (Macksville); was a circuit preacher some years. True Pattee was circuit preacher some years in an early day on the Firelands. Elder Phillips, Elder Asahel Morse and Elder Barber were preachers at an early day on the Firelands. Of the early preachers of the Presbyterian denomination, were Alvan Coe, Lott B. Sullivan, John Beach, Enoch Conger, and some others.

MARTIN KELLOGG.

Bronson, August, 1876.

CHRIST CHURCH IN HURON.

Rev. S. Marks, the venerable pastor of this church, in a recent address to his congregation said: "In 1837 I visited this place, but found no church edifice. Being invited to preach, I occupied a school house which is now the property of Mrs. Wm. Benschoten. I was the first clergyman of the Primitive Methodist church, who broke ground here, and at which time, I was invited to become the pastor of the church about to be organized. I declined at the time but a taste for the doctrines, government and discipline of the church having been acquired, a gentleman by the name of Cleveland was called, who remained one year. The next minister was the Rev. Mr. Leavenworth, under whose ministry this house was erected. In 1839 the invitation was again extended to me to take charge of the parish, and under my ministry, this church edifice was consecrated to the worship of Almight God by Bishop McIlvaine D. D., D. C. L.

The wardens and vestrymen, when I came, were the following named gentlemen:

Wardens—Messrs. I. W. Wickham, and S. P. McDonald.

Vestrymen—G. S. Patterson, John Fleeharty, D. G. Branch, M. D., John B. Wilbor, Tower Jackson; G. P. Robinson, Secretary of the Vestry.

Thirty-five years have I been the resident minister of this parish, and standing and kneeling in the same spots where I now am to-day. Many have been the changes, I have witnessed among you. Let us bow our heads with resignation to God, for the sorrowful, and look forward with joy for good things to come.

POETRY.

DOROTHY Q.

OLIVER WENDELL HOLMES.

O Damsel Dorothy! Dorothy Q!
Strange is the gift that I owe to you;
Such a gift as never a King
Save to daughter or son might bring,—
All my tenure of heart and hand,
All my title to house and land;
Mother and sister and child and wife
And joy and sorrow and death and life!

What if a hundred years ago
These close-shut lips had answered No,
When forth the tremulous question came
That cost the maiden her Norman name,
And under the folds that look so still
The bodice swelled with the bosom's thrill?
Should I be I, or would it be
One-tenth another, to nine-tenths me?

Soft is the breath of a maiden's YES:
Not the light gossamer stirs with less;
But never a cable that holds so fast
Through all the battles of wave and blast,
And never an echo of speech or song
That lives in the babbling air so long!
There were tones in the voice that whispered then
You may hear to-day in a hundred men.

O lady and lover, how faint and far
Your images hover,—and here we are,
Solid and stirring in flesh and bone,—
Edward's and Dorothy's—all their own,—
A goodly record for Time to show
Of a syllable spoken so long ago!
Shall I bless you, Dorothy, or forgive
For the tender whisper that bade me live?

THE LAMENT OF GRANDMOTHER GRUMBLE.

BY HELEN J. ANGELL.

What has become of the suppers,
The suppers we used to know,
When David and I were youngsters,
In the beautiful long ago,
When people got up in the morning
And slept the night hours through?

I hate the glare of gas-light
And the smell of kerosene;
Their tapers of wax are better,
But *they* have a Romish lean,
And the blessed sun is the best light
That these old eyes have seen.

But, for fear of fading their carpets,
They darken their house like a tomb;
They're not a particle better
Than those from my mother's loom,
That looked so gay with the sunlight
Or the firelight in the room.

They talk of charming pictures,
Of "A Sunrise by the Sea,"
And a "Morning in the Bernese Alps";
But they just make fun of me
If I praise the *real* sunrise,
A sight they never see.

It is not according to Nature
To lie in bed till ten,
And come half-dressed to breakfast,
As if they were early then.
When my children got up grumbling,
I sent them to-bed again.

They dress for morning callers,
Or sit up-stairs and read
Of horrors that never happened
And never could, indeed;
Or spend whole hours a-shopping,
When there isn't a thing they need.

But they buy ice-creams and candies,
And are home for lunch at two;
Then practice what *they* call music,
Perhaps, for an hour or two;

And then crochet or take a nap,
For they've nothing else to do.

At half-past six comes dinner,
With the best of meats and wine,
And the men-folks finish with cigars,
And there's cake and tea at nine;
But they're not so happy as we were,
With all their fixings fine.

They have what *they* call suppers,
Sometimes, at dead of night,
When they rig up in their finery
And all "our set" invite;
The women are walking fashion-plates
And the men wear coats too tight.

But there's nothing left of the suppers
That cheered our spirits so
When David and I were married,
Nigh three-score year ago,
When 'twas fashion to dine at twelve o'clock
And sup when the sun was low.

BATTLE OF LAKE ERIE.

Ye tar of Columbia give ear to my story,
Who fought with brave Perry, where cannons did roar;
Your valor has gain'd you an immortal glory,
A fame that will last till time is no more.
Columbian tars are the true sons of Mars,
They rake fore and aft when they fight on the deep;
On the bed of Lake Erie commanded by Perry,
They caused many Britons to take their last sleep.

The Tenth of September let us all remember,
As long as the globe on her axis rolls round,
Our tars and marines on Lake Erie were seen
To make the proud flag of Great Britain come down,
The guns they did roar with such terrific power,
The savages trembled at the dreadful sound.

The Lawrence sustained a most dreadful fire.
They fought for one or two glasses or more;
But Perry undaunted did firmly stand by her,
And on the proud foes heavy broadsides did pour;
Her masts being shatter'd, her rigging all tatter'd,

Her booms and her yards being all shot away,
And few men on deck to manage the wreck,
Our hero on board her no longer could stay.

In this situation the pride of our nation
Sure heaven had guarded unhurt all the while,
Whilst many a hero maintaining his station,
Fell close by his side and was thrown on the pile;
But mark ye and wonder when elements thunder,
And death and destruction was stalking all round.
His flag he did carry on board the Niagara.
Such valor on record was never yet found.

There was one gallant act of our noble commander,
While writing my song I must notice with pride,
When launched in a smack that carried a standard,
A ball whistled through her just by his side.
Says Perry those villains intend for to drown us,
Push on, my brave boys, you need never to fear,
And then with his coat he plug'd up the boat,
Thro' sulphur and fire away he did steer.

The fam'd Niagara now proud of her Perry,
Display'd all her banners in gallant array,
And twenty-five guns on her deck she did carry,
Which soon put an end to the bloody affray.
The rear of our fleet was brought up complete.
And signals were given to break through the line,
While starboard and larboard from every quarter,
The stars of Columbia did gloriously shine.

The bold British lion now roared his last thunder,
While Perry attack'd him close in the rear,
Columbia's eagle soon made him crouch under,
And roar out for quarter as you shall soon hear,
O had you been there I vow and declare,
That so great a sight you'd ne'er seen before,
Six or eight bloody flags that no longer could wag,
All lay at the feet of our brave Commodore.

Brave Elliot, whose valor must now be recorded,
On board the Niagara had well played his part,
His gallant assistance to Perry afforded,
We place him the second on Lake Erie's chart
In the midst of the battle where guns they did rattle,
The Lawrence a wreck and the men most all slain,
Away he did steer and brought up the rear,
And by his manœuver the victory was gain'd.

O had you but seen those noble commanders
Embracing each other when the conflict was o'er,
And viewing with pride those invincible standards,
That ne'er had been yielded to any before.
Says Perry, "brave Elliot come give me your hand,
This day you have gain'd an immortal renown,
So long as Columbians Lake Erie command,
Let the brave Elliot with laurels be crown'd."

Great Britain may boast of her conquering heroes,
Her Rodneys and Nelsons, and all the whole crew,
But Rome in her glory ne'er told such a story,
Nor boasted such feats as Columbians do.
The whole British fleet was captured complete,
Not one single vessel from us got away,
And prisoners some hundreds, Columbians wonder'd
To see them all anchor'd and moor'd in our bay.

May heaven still smile on the shades of those heroes,
Who fought in this conflict their country to save,
Who checked the proud spirit of those murdering Neroes,
Who wished to divide us, and make us all slaves.
Columbians sing, and make the woods ring,
And toast those brave heroes by sea and by land,
While Britons drink Sherry, Columbians drink Perry,
And toast it about with full glasses in hand.

TEMPERANCE HISTORY.

THE HURON COUNTY TEMPERANCE LEAGUE.

Ih the spring of the year 1847, Norwalk Division No. 227, of the Order of the Sons of Temperance was organized. In the following year a section of Cadets of Temperance was formed at Norwalk. A Temple of Honor and Temperance was also established there. Similar organizations were formed in other parts of Huron county, which accomplished much good in the line of their operations. But it was found necessary to form an open organization, for the purpose of uniting all friends of the cause in public effort for its promotion. Accordingly, the Norwalk Temperance League was formed, which held regular public meetings, and enlisted the ministers of the churches, and other speakers in addressing them. The success of this movement induced the friends of the cause to attempt a county organization to extend the plan of union and cooperation into all the townships. Pursuant to a call for this purpose, a county meeting was held at the Methodist Episcopal Church in Norwalk on the 7th of June, 1850, and the Huron County Temperance League was organized. The first officers were :

Rev. S. C. Parker, President.

G. T. Stewart, Secretary.

Charles E. Newman, Treasurer.

All the officiating clergymen of the county who subscribed the Constitution and Pledge, were constituted Vice Presidents of the County League. The following Preamble and Pledge were adopted with the Constitution :

WHEREAS, We believe that Intemperance is a crime, that its authors and abettors are enemies to the public welfare, and that its fearful increase in our midst demands the instant, zealous and united efforts of all the friends of virtue for its suppression—We hereby form ourselves into a common League against this common foe, under the following *Pledge and Constitution* :

PLEDGE.

We, the undersigned, agree that we will not make, buy, sell, or use intoxicating drinks as a beverage, that we will not provide them as an article of entertainment, and that we will do all in our power by right means to abolish their manufacture, traffic and use throughout the community."

The Constitution approved the plan of the Norwalk Temperance League, and recommended the organization of similar associations in all the townships auxiliary to the County League, and provided that their members should all be members of the County League. This organization was preliminary, and the first annual meeting of the County League was held at Monroeville on the 8th of November, 1850, when the following officers were elected :

Rev. J. C. Bowles, President.

Charles E. Newman, Secretary.

Charles Vancise, Treasurer.

The next meeting of the County League was held at Norwalk on the 6th of December, 1850, which adopted a revised constitution providing that all Temperance Associations within the county, founded on a pledge of total abstinence from intoxicating drinks, might be auxiliary to the County League, and their members should be members of it; that the payment of $5 should constitute an honorary member, and of $10 a life member of it. The time of the annual meeting was fixed for the 4th of July, or if that should be the Sabbath then on the day following, for the purpose of a Temperance celebration and patriotic re-union of all friends of the cause on that day. The Constitution also provided for quarterly meetings of the County League in different parts of the county. S. T. Worcester and G. T. Stewart were elected members of the Executive Committee, with the President, Secretary and Treasurer, before chosen at the Monroeville meeting. The plan was also adopted of enlisting all clergymen and other public speakers in the county, who were willing to give their services, to be enrolled as county lecturers, to address one public meeting in each quarter of the year, and to have one Temperance address delivered every three months in every township in the county. This plan was successfully carried out, and the following named gentlemen were enrolled as county lecturers and addressed public temperance meetings in all parts of the county, under the appointment of the executive committee, in the year 1851 and the first quarter of 1852 :

Rev. C. W. Clapp, Rev. S. B. Page, Rev. E. S. Grumley, Rev. M. W. Fairfield, Rev. E. P. Salmon, Rev. F. P. Hall, Rev. R. S. Lockwood, Rev. Mr. Boardman, Rev. Alfred Newton, Rev. S. H. Waldo, Rev. Ira Smith, Rev. John Kelley, John R. Osborn, S. T. Worcester, G. T. Stewart, Charles Kent, E. W. Tucker, De Morris Pratt, D. H. Beckwith, Timothy Baker, jr., C. F. Woodruff, B. T. Hunt, B. F. Boberts.

These quarterly meetings were held simultaneously, or as nearly so as practicable, in all the townships where arrangements could be made for holding them. The County League held its first quarterly meeting of that year at North Fairfield, on the 7th of March, 1851, which was ably addressed by Rev. S. B. Page. The following resolutions were unanimously adopted, and show the spirit of the friends of the cause, and the advance of public sentiment in the county at that time :

Resolved, That on this first meeting of our League, in this first year of the new half century, we review with emotions of joy, gratitude and encouragement, the history of the rise, progress and triumphs of the Temperance Reformation, during the half century that has ended.

Resolved, That great and manifest as have been the reforms achieved by the friends of Temperance in former years, we are admonished by the voice of suffering thousands in our midst, that the work of salvation is not yet accomplished ; and that the tokens of our past and present success, should incite us to fresh zeal and re-animated effort for the future.

Resolved, That Intemperance is an organized evil, and it is only by organized effort that we can prevail against it ; and we therefore appeal to the friends of the cause in this county, to form Temperance Associations in every Township.

Resolved, That the use of intoxicating drinks is a custom which owes its origin and continuance to an ignorant and vitiated public sentiment ; and that the agency of public meetings and the dissemination of Temperance truth, is necessary to reform and purify that public sentiment.

Resolved, That Temperance is a vital principle of godliness, and hence its cause is essentially the cause of religion and morality, and should receive the cordial sympathy and efforts of all Christian ministers and churches.

Resolved, That the time has come when the friends of Temperance should not act merely in self-defence, and that

they should now adopt plans of aggressive war-fare; that while we still esteem it our duty and privilege to act in the character of the Good Samaritan, by binding up and restoring to health the bleeding victims of the rum traffic, we believe it is also our duty to to assume the offices of the law-giver and judge, to denounce and punish the authors of the crime.

Resolved, That Intemperance is a great political evil, and that the question of its removal is far above all party issues of the day; that it is a foe to liberty and destructive to the vital principles of a free government; that it corrupts the ballot box, subverts the laws, and spreads crime, pauperism and wretchedness through the land; and that its wide ravages in our midst demand the efforts of all good citizens for its suppression.

Resolved, That we believe with Washington, Franklin, Jefferson and others of the fathers of the Republic, that the habitual use of ardent spirits, which unfits men for the discreet management of their own affairs, also disqualifies them for the wise and upright discharge of public trusts, by debasing both their morals and their reason; and that candidates for office who are the slaves of intemperance, ought not to receive the suffrages of a free people.

Resolved, That we will not knowingly support any candidate for civil office, who is engaged in the making or vending of ardent spirits as a beverage, or who is addicted to their use.

The first series of public temperance meetings addressed by the county lecturers, was held throughout the county in the first part of June, 1851, preceding the state election, on the adoption of the new constitution, which was submitted to the people that month, with a separate vote on the sectoin prohibiting license for the sale of intoxicating liquors, and had a great influence in securing the vote of Huron county against license. The election was held June 17th, 1851, and the new constitution was adopted, with the section prohibiting license. The official vote of this county on the license question was as follows:

	For License.	Against License.
Bronson,	116	73
Clarksfield,	20	153
Fitchville,	32	111
Fairfield,	48	167
Greenfield,	80	99
Greenwich,	76	38
Hartland,	68	47
Lyme,	102	57
Norwalk,	225	223
New Haven,	149	50
New London,	73	113
Norwich,	65	57
Peru,	65	62
Richmond.	7	38
Ridgefield,	109	89
Ripley,	47	88
Sherman,	56	39
Townsend,	108	61
Wakeman,	34	68
Total,	1480	1635

Majority against license was 155. The majority against license in the State was 8,984.

The second annual meeting of the County League was held at Norwalk on the 4th of July, 1851, and was addressed by Rev. Alfred Newton, of Norwalk, and other speakers. The following officers were elected:

Gen Jeremiah Cole, President.

Charles E. Newman, Secretary.

Edward E. Husted, Treasurer.

Frederick Wickham and Frederick A. Wildman were added as members of the Executive Committee.

The enactment of the Maine Law in 1851 and its adoption by several States in that and the following years, created a strong desire among the friends of temperance in Ohio to secure its enactment here. At the fall election of 1851, the friends of the cause in Huron county were successful in the election of Hon. James Green, Whig, Representative in the Legislature, who zealously labored for a prohibitory law. The Huron County Temperance League directed its efforts this end, and petitions from several thousands of the citizens of the county were sent to the Legislature, for the suppres-

sion by law of the liquor traffic. During the excitement of the Presidential canvass of 1852, the public meetings were mostly suspended, but were resumed by the League and prosecuted through the ensuing winter and the spring of 1853.

At the annual meeting on the 4th of July, 1853, held at Norwalk, the following officers were chosen :

James Green, President.

Charles E. Newman, Secretary.

Edward E. Husted, Treasurer.

Frederick Sears and G. T. Stewart were added for Executive Committee.

The meeting was ably addressed by J. E. Ingersoll, a prominent lawyer of Cleveland. On motion of D. F. DeWolf, a resolution was adopted, to support no candidate for the next Legislature who would not unqualifiedly pledge himself to use his utmost endeavors for the enactment of a law similar to the Maine Law, prohibiting the manufacture and traffic in intoxicating drinks. At the ensuing State Temperance Convention, it was determined to make a vigorous canvass for the election of a Maine Law Legislature, and an assessment of twenty thousand dollars was made upon the State, to be contributed by the friends of the cause, to sustain lecturers and defray the cost of a gratuitous distribution of Maine Law papers and documents among the voters. Of this amount the sum of three hundred dollars assessed was on Huron county. The County League took immediate measures to raise that sum, and Huron county was the first in the State to respond to the call of the State Committee, by the prompt and full payment of its assessment. The Executive Committee of the League apportioned the required sum among the several townships for collection and issued an address to the people in which they said,

"Let the friends of the cause now awake to action. The petitions of more than two hundred and fifty thousand of the people of Ohio for the Maine Law, have slept for two sessions on the tables of our Legislature, disregarded and despised, and among them the petitions of over three thousand of the people of this county, nearly two thousand of them voters. We shall petition no longer. The question must be decided at the ballot box. If the three political parties will nominate for Representative in this county and for Senator in this district, men whose character and temperance sentiments have heretofore commanded the confidence of the friends of the cause, no separate nomination will be made. If of the two candidates most likely to succeed one is a reliable temperance man and the other is not, we shall without respect to party nominations, support the former. But no mushroom promises, springing up on the eve of election, will win our suffrages, unless affirmed by the known antecedents of the candidates. In other parts of the State tens of thousands of voters are enrolling their names under pledges to support no candidate for the Legislature who is not an open friend of the Maine Law. At the last annual meeting of the Huron County Temperance League, a resolution was adopted, which, in the form of the following pledge, the committee recommended for the signatures of temperance voters throughout the county."

PLEDGE.—The undesigned hereby agree that we will support no candidate for the Legislature who is not a reliable Temperance man, and who will not unqualifiedly pledge himself to use his utmost endeavors, to secure the passage of a law similar in its fundamental principles to the so called Maine Law, prohibiting the manufacture and traffic in intoxicating drinks.

Let this pledge be immediately and actively circulated.

This appeal of the committee received a cordial response, in money and pledges from the voters.

A call was issued by the Executive Committee of the League for a Temperance Mass Convention, to be held at Bellevue, on the fourteenth of September, 1853, of the friends of the cause in the Senatorial District, composed of Huron, Erie, Sandusky and Ottawa counties, to take into consideration the propriety of nomi-

nating a Maine Law candidate for State Senator, if the political parties in the District should fail to present reliable Temperance candidates for that office. The Convention was largely attended and was addressed by Dr. Charles Jewett, of Massachusetts. Hon. Samuel T. Worcester, of Norwalk, was nominated by the Convention for Senator, and his nomination was accepted by the Whig and Free Soil Senatorial Conventions of the District. Hon. J. M. Root and Hon. F. D. Parish addressed a Maine Law meeting at Sandusky city, and the cause was vigorously advocated by the Norwalk *Reflector*, the Sandusky *Register* and the Fremont *Journal*, the three Whig organs of the District. The Huron county Whig Convention nominated for re-election as Representative in the Legislature, the President of the County League, Hon. James Green. The Free Soil County Convention nominated for Representatives, Samuel Penfield, an ardent Maine Law man, and adopted this resolution.

Resolved, That the spirit of reform that has characterized our organization thus far, requires us at this time, to stand forth as uncompromising advocates of Temperance, and that the peace, happiness and prosperity of the people of our State requires the passage of a law prohibiting the traffic in all intoxicating drinks upon the principles of the Maine Law and that we will support no man for any office, who is not, heart and soul, in favor of such a measure.

Thus, with two Maine Law candidates for Representatives in the field, it became evident that both would be defeated unless a union of the Temperance voters could be effected. In this juncture, the Executive Committee of the County League issued a call for a county delegate convention at the Court House, in Norwalk, to be held September 30th, 1853. At this convention both Whig and Free Soil candidates, Mr. Green and Mr. Penfield attended, and resigning their party nominations, submitted their names to the convention. Other candidates were named and on the third ballot, Alfred R. Seger, of Clarksfield, was nominated as the Temperance candidate for Representative. The convention adopted the following, among other resolutions.

Resolved, That we will vote for no candidate for the Legislature who will not give his earnest endeavors to secure the enactment, in this State, of a law, similar in its fundamental principles to the so-called Maine Law.

Resolved, That we will vote for no candidate for Congress—and we hereby request our members of the Legislature to vote for no candidate for the United States Senate,—who will not exert himself for the adoption, by Congress, of laws similar to the Maine Law for the District of Columbia, and Territories of the Union, —for the entire abolition of spirit-rations in the army and navy, and for prohibiting the importation of intoxicating liquors from foreign countries.

A short but active campaign was made, under the direction of the County League, in support of these nominations, Mass meetings were addressed by Dr. Charles Jewett, at Norwalk, Monroeville and North Fairfield. Other speakers visited all parts of the county.

Three hundred and twenty copies of the *Maine Law Advocate*, three hundred and fifty copies of the *Temperance Organ* (published at Columbus and Cincinnati,) and one hundred and ninety copies of the *Harpoon*, (published at Cleveland) and one thousand tracts, were gratuitously distributed in the county during the campaign. These were furnished by the State Central Committee, who also sent Dr. Jewett, F. W. Kellogg and Parker Earl to address meetings in the county. The Democratic party nominated Albert G. Sutton, of Norwalk, for Senator, and John Terry of Peru, for Representative, (both *anti-Maine Law*.) The official result of the election in Huron county was,

FOR SENATOR	
Samuel F. Worcester,	2,342
Albert G. Sutton,	1,653
Temperance majority	689
FOR REPRESENTATIVE	
Alfred R. Seger,	2,240
John Terry.	1,711
Temperance majority,	529

But majorities of 669 in Sandusky, 180 in Ottawa, and 23 in Erie counties were given for Mr. Sutton, and he was elected in the District for Senator, while Mr. Seger was chosen Representative.

The effect of these efforts of the County League, is seen in the fact that while there was a majority in the county of only 155 against license in 1857, it was increased in two years, to 689, in favor of the total prohibition of the manufacture and traffic in intoxicating drinks.

The wisdom of the course pursued by the League in calling the separate nominating committees, was shown in the result as to candidates for other offices, for which party nominations were made, the Democratic anti-Maine Law candidates being generally successful, while the Whig and Free Soil Maine Law candidates were nearly all defeated. At the same election, the vote of the county on Governor was as follows:

For Medill (Democrat)	1,706
For Barrere (Whig)	1,163
For Lewis (Free Soil)	1,277
Democratic plurality,	602

The Norwalk *Reflector* of October 18th 1853, announcing the result of the election, said; "Had the Peoples' Convention been held prior to the Party Conventions, and a full ticket had been nominated, the victory would have been complete and decisive. The result of the election is, however, full of encouragement to the Temperance voters. It shows them that by a union of effort, they can hereafter control the county, and give its vote at all times, for the cause of Temperance, Justice and Humanity."

The result in the State was less successful. About one-third of the legislature chosen was in favor of the Maine Law, but a large majority was in favor of a stringent regulating statute; and the act of May 1st, 1854, was passed which with some amendments, is now the law of the State.

The County League then proceeded to adopt measures for the efficient enforcement of this law in the county. The next annual meeting was held July 10th, 1854, and the following officers were elected.

Frederick Sears, President; Erastus Gray, Treasurer; Frederick A. Wildman, Secretary.

Luther Palmer and Alex. Mc Pherson, were added for the Executive Committee.

The following resolutions were adopted.

Resolved, That although the laws passed by the last Legislature to prohibit tippling and intemperance, and to prevent the adulteration of alcoholic liquors, are in our judgment inadequate to remove the evils of intemperance, as every law must be which does not comprise the Maine Law elements of search, seizure, and destruction of liquors, made or held for illegal traffic; yet they contain provisions which if properly enforced will do much to restrict and repress those evils.

Resolved, That it is the duty of Temperance men to employ all the means which Providence has placed within their reach to abolish the woes and curses of intemperance from the land; and we therefore earnestly call upon them to enforce the laws now upon our statute book whenever and wherever practicable.

Resolved, That these laws depend mainly for their successful execution upon the opinion and official conduct of the Probate Judge and Prosecuting Attorney of each county, and it is therefore the duty of Temperance voters to give their suffrages for these offices to those candidates only who have testified by their

past acts as well as their present professions that they are true and reliable in their support of Temperance principles.

Resolved, That we will vote for the candidate of no party that will not nominate open, active, and decided temperance men for all offices, or that is afraid to avow its sentiments boldly and unequivocally in favor of the legal suppression of the manufacture and traffic in intoxicating liquor as a beverage.

The famous Carson League system, which had been adopted in the eastern States, with much success, for the enforcement of prohibitory laws, was considered by the meeting; and the Constitution of the League was revised, for the purpose of incorporating that plan into it, which was done in the following article.

PERMAMENT FUND.

There shall be opened in one or more suitable books, a subscription to found and sustain a permanent fund for this League, in the following form:

For the purpose of aiding to secure the enactment and enforcement of laws for the suppression of the manufacture and traffic in intoxicating liquors as a beverage, in the State of Ohio, we, the undersigned, hereby agree to subject to equal assessment, the sums annexed to our names, respectively, such assessment to be made by the Executive Committee of the Huron County Temperance League, not to exceed one per cent. in any one year and to be paid on notice of the assessment being given, to the Treasurer of said League. This agreement shall not take effect, until at least, the amount of $50,000 shall be thus subject to assessment in Huron county, and may be terminated at the option of each subscriber on six months' notice in writing, to that effect, having been given to the aforesaid Treasurer, and on the payment of all assessments due thereon at the end of said six months; and such withdrawing subscriber shall thereafter be free from all further liability on his said stock. The control and disbursement of all such assessments being entrusted to the Executive Committee of said League, subject to the requirements of its Constitution."

A similar article was incorporated into the Constitution of the Township League and large subscriptions were made in several of the townships. It did not, however, prove so efficient a means as had been anticipated.

The law was enforced with much vigor, and in a large part of the county the traffic in alcoholic beverages was entirely suppressed.

In 1855, John R. Williams, one of the original Baltimore Washingtonian Reformers, known as *The Old Missionary*, was employed by the County League and made a general canvass of the county, addressing public meetings, reviving the Temperance Societies and obtaining many signers to the total absteinnce pledge. At the annual meeting of the County League, held at North Fairfield, July 4th, 1856, addresses were delivered by Hon. S. F. Taylor, Rev R. McCune and G. T. Stewart; and the following officers were chosen:

Charles B. Simmons; President; Charles W. Manahan, Secretary; Erastus Gray, Treasurer; and an Executive Committee of one member in each township.

The passage of the Kansas and Nebraska act by Congress, in 1854 and the consequent slavery agitation, the disruption of old political parties and formation of new ones, the excitement of the Presidential election in 1856 and the civil war in Kansas, so absorbed the public attention that most of the Temperance societies through the county and State disbanded, and in 1857, the County League suspended its operations.

No attempt was made to revive it, until the eighth of January, 1870, when a county meeting was held for that pursose and the following officers were chosen. Charles W. Manahan, President; Henry J. Baldwin, Secretary; Levi Kilburn, Treasurer.

Lecturers were employed and meetings were held in various parts of the county, and a special effort was made to revive the Carson League system and enforce the

regulating statutes against the liquor traffic.

Some good results followed, but the attempt to revive and organize local societies was not successful in the prevailing apathy on the Temperance question, and again the County League ceased its operations.

After the grand awakening of the Temperance cause by the women of Ohio in 1873, new Township Leagues were formed and the present Huron County Temperance League was organized.

THE FIRST TEMPERANCE SOCIETY IN OHIO.

Mr. H. Wetmore in a letter to the Cuyahoga Falls *Reporter*. gives this interesting statement

The first temperance society in the State of Ohio was organized in the spring of 1828, at Cuyahoga Falls, by Doctor Wilcox then a school teacher and myself; seven persons only could be induced to sign the pledge besides ourselves. Thus it stood without further increase until December of the same year when Joshua Stow came out from Middletown, Connecticut, and encouraged the little society thus formed and proposed calling a meeting of all the citizens of Stow township to meet with this society at Stow Corners. A meeting was appointed and an unexpected revival took place. Sixty-five persons came forward and signed the pledge in addition to the nine from the Falls. A new constitution was formed, and the two societies united.

The society continued to increase in numbers and influence until by their example and precept they caused four distilleries to discontinue their business. I have in my possession a report of the society, made by request of David Hudson, Esq., of Hudson, dated April 5th, 1830, and signed by Erastus Southmayd, H. W. Butler and Edwin Wetmore in which the *Report* says; the Stow society was formed in December, 1828. Many interesting incidents could be narrated of the difficulties in establishing the first society at the Falls, the discouraging circumstances, of those peculiar times, when it was customary for merchants to keep whisky on their counters for their customers to drink, and all workmen, and especially millwrights were accustomed to have their bottles replenished daily. The old firm of Stow & Wetmore then employed thirty workmen building their mills, all of whom used from one pint to a quart each day of whisky.

The workmen struck not for higher wages, but for a continuance of their whisky. It was refused, and they all left: after a time a part only returned. Then in raising their paper mill the firm were obliged to call on the church of Tallmadge, and a large body of the male members headed by their minister came over and worked one day with a will. Before night, the advocates of whiskey called on the firm and informed them that they need not take the trouble to ask any further favors of Tallmadge church; that they would turn out and finish raising the building. They did so, and the firm conquered. But it was accomplished with many difficulties and embarrassments. Hence Cuyahoga Falls is entitled to the honor of establishing the first temperance society in the State of Ohio. The ball set in motion at this place was soon after repeated in Copley, Hudson and other adjoining towns.

MILITARY HISTORY.

REPORT OF THE EIGHTH OHIO REGIMENT.

BY GEN. FRANKLIN SAWYER.

The 8th Regiment Ohio Volunteers was first organized as a three months regiment, at Camp Taylor, Cleveland, Ohio, and sent to Camp Dennison for equipment and drill, April 28th, 1861. It was subsequently re-organized for three years, and was ready for the field July 8, 1861, —the following named officers and companies having been mustered into the service:

Colonel—Herman G. DePuy, of Erie county.

Lieut.-Col.—Charles A. Park, of Lorain county.

Major — Franklin Sawyer, of Huron county.

Adjutant—Joseph R. Swigart, of Crawford county.

Quartermaster — Hermann Reuss, of Huron county.

Surgeon—Dr. Benjamin Tappan, of Jefferson county.

Ass't Surgeon—Dr. Samuel Sexton, of Hamilton county.

Chaplain—Rev. L. N. Freeman, of Erie county.

During its term of service there were field officers as follows:

Colonels—H. G. Depuy, resigned, and S. S. Carroll, U. S. A.

Lieut.-Colonels—Charles A. Park, resigned, and Franklin Sawyer.

Majors—Franklin Sawyer, promoted, and A. H. Winslow.

STAFF.

Surgeons—B. Tappan, resigned, W. H. Lammoe, resigned, Thos. Mc. Ebright, resigned, and Joseph L. Brenton.

Ass't Surgeons—S. Sexton, Benjamin T. Culver, resigned, Freeman A. Tuttle and James S. Pollock.

Chaplains—Rev. L. N. Freeman and Rev. Alexander Miller.

Adjutants—Lt. J. R. Swigert, transferred to Gen. Kimball's staff; Lt. David Lewis, promoted to captain, and John W. Depuy.

Quartermasters—Lt. Herman Ruess and Lt. Edward F. Dickinson.

The Regiment was composed of ten companies:

Company A, Seneca county; Captain, A. H. Winslow, promoted to Major; First Lieutenant, B. F. Ogle, promoted to Captain, resigned; Second Lieutenant, E. W. Cook, resigned; First Lieutenant, Shilletto Smith, wounded at Antietam; Second Lieutenant, John N. Travis, promoted from Sergeant.

Company B (Hibernian Guards), from Cleveland; Captain, William Kenney; First Lieutenant, Wm. Delany, killed at Gettysburg; Second Lieutenant, John Lantry, killed at Antietam; First Lieu-

tenant, James K. O'Riley, promtoed from Sergeant; Second Lieutenant, Thos. Galway, prouoted from Sergeant.

Company C, Crawford county; Captain, F. W. Butterfield, promoted to Colonel 192 O. V.; First Lieutenant, David Lewis, served as Regimental Adjutant, promoted to Captain, wounded in battle of the Wilderness; Second Lieutenant, Jacob Huysung, wounded at Spottsylvania; Second Lieutenant, David Kountz, promoted from Sergeant.

Company D, Huron county; Captain, Franklin Sawyer, promoted to Major, Lieutenant Colonel, and Brevet Brigadier General, wounded at Martin's Ford, Gettysburg and Spottsylvania; First Lieutenant, D. C. Daggett, promoted to Captain, resigned; Second Lieutenant, John Reid, promoted to Captain, wounded at Gettysburg; Second Lieutenant, A. S. Sutton, resigned; Second Lieutenant, John G. Reid, promoted from Sergeant to Second Lieutenant and Captain, served as Brigade Adjutant; Second Lieutenant, Charles S. Manahan, promoted from Sergeant, killed at Spottsylvania.

Company E, Erie county; Captain Jas. E. Gregg; First Lieutenant, Alfred T. Craig, promoted to Captain, killed in the Wilderness; Second Lieutenant, Wells W. Miller, promoted to Captain, wounded at Gettysburg; Second Lieutenant, John W. DePuy, promoted from Sergeant Major, also to First Lieutenant, served as Regimental Adjutant, wounded at Winchester and Spottsylvania; First Lieutenant, W. D. Witherel, promoted from Sergeant, wounded at Antietam; Second Lieutenant, Horace H. Bill, promoted from Sergeant Major, killed at Antietam; Second Lieutenant, Lester V. McKesson, promoted from Sergeant, wounded at Gettysburg and Spottsylvania.

Company F, Sandusky county; Captain, George M. Tillottson, died in the service; First Lieutenant, Charles W. Fouke, resigned; Second Lieutenant, Henry Farnnum, promoted from Sergeant, also to First Lieutenant and Captain, wounded at Gettysburg; First Lieutenant, Thomas H. Thornburgh, promoted from Sergeant, wounded at Mine Run.

Company G, Sandusky county; Captain, Wm. E. Haynes, promoted to Lieutenant-Colonel 10th O. V. Cavalry; First Lieutenant, Edward F. Dickenson, promoted to Captain, served as Regimental Quartermaster; Second Lieutenant, Creighton Thompson, wounded at Antietam.

Company H, Medina and Lorain counties; Captain, O. O. Kelson, resigned; First Lieutenant, P. W. Chase, resigned; Second Lieutenant, Charles A. Wright, resigned; First Lieutenant, Elijah Hayden, promoted from Sergeant, killed at Gettysburg; Second Lieutenant, D. R. Wallace, resigned, promoted from Sergeant; First Lieutenant, Stephen Strange, promoted from Sergeant.

Company I, Lorain county: Captain, Richard Allen, killed at Fredericksburg; First Lieutenant, William Pearce, resigned; Second Lieutenant, Azor H. Nickerson, promoted to Captain, wounded at Antietam and Gettysburg, appointed Captain in Regular Army; First Lieutenant, Lucien Abbott, promoted from Sergeant.

Company K, Medina county, Captain, Wilbur F. Pierce, wounded at Fredricksbury and Gettysburg; First Lieutenant, Henry Fritz, resigned; Second Lieutenant, Otis Shaw, jr., resigned; First Lieutenant, Finney R. Loomis, promoted from Sergeant, also to Captain; Second Lieutenant, O. G. Daniels, promoted from Sergeant, also to First Lieutenant.

The regiment left Camp Dennison for West Virginia, July 8th, 1861; served in the campaign against Garnett's force. It was also present at an attempt on Romney under Colonel Cantwell, and participated in its capture under General Kelly. It was also engaged in the capture of Blue's Gap. During the winter of 1861–62, it formed part of the force under General

Lander on the Upper Potomac, doing service at Patterson Creek, Paw Paw Tunnel, etc., and was in the front in the capture of Bloomey Gap, capturing Colonel Baldwin and other rebel officers.

In November, 1861, Colonel DePuy and Lieutenant Colonel Park resigned, and Major Sawyer was promoted to Lieutenant-Colonel. and Captain. S. S. Carroll, of the U. S. Army, was appointed Colonel. Colonel Carroll was a West Pointer, a thorough disciplinarian, brave, active, and devoted to his profession. During six weeks at Romney under his command the regiment attaiaed a high state of proficiency in tactics and discipline and the *esprit de corps*, for which it was afterwards so much celebrated.

In March the regiment joined General Shield's division in the Valley of the Shenandoah, and participated in the campaig n against "Sonewall" Jackson. On the 23d it participated in the battle of Winchester. In this battle Lieutenant-Colonel Sawyer charged the enmy in flank, with companies C, D, E, and H, in which the men showed the coolest courage. The loss in killed and wounded was more than one-fourth the number engaged. Colonel Sawyer's horse was twice struck during the charge. Colonel Carroll with the left wing of the regiment was also hotly engaged, he receiving several shots through his clothing.

After driving the enemy up the Valley to Stanton, Colonel Carroll was placed in command of a brigade, and never again commanded the regiment, which, from this time to the end of its service, with brief exceptions, was in command of Lieutenant Colonel Sawyer. The brigade, consisting of the 4th and 8th Ohio, 14th Indiana and 7th Virginia, was formed at this time, and remained a permanent organization until the expiration of service. The 4th Ohio was not with us at Antietam, but was replaced by the 126th Pennsylvania Volunteers, losing its Colonel Oakford in that battle.

The regiment joined the Army of the Potomac on the second of July, at Harrison's Landing, and had severe skirmishes on the 2d, 3d, and 4th of July, on the Chickahoming, while McClelland was falling back from Malvern Hill—the loss in the regiment being nine wounded, two of whom died of their wounds. We remained at this place until its evacuation, August 16th, when we marched to Yorktown and Newport News, and thence by transports to Alexandria, thence to Centerville, when we witnessed the retreat from the second Bull Run. We supported Kearny at Chantilly and were under fire. Thence marched to South Mountain, Maryland, having a brisk skirmish at Monocacy. One corps, Sumner's, supported at South Mountain and witnessed the battle. Moving forward, this corps occupied the center at Antietam, and our division, French's, the center of the corps, Sedgwick on the right, Richardson on the left. This was the severest battle in which the regiment ever participated. In connection with the 14th Indiana, it formed the right wing of Kimball's brigade, and to relieve Sedgwick, who had been driven from position, was compelled to charge a superior force, well posted on a crest. This was gallantly done, but one-half of both these regiments fell, killed or wounded, in less than twenty minutes. Lieutenants Delany, Santy, Bill, and Barnes were killed. Lieutenants Shillitto Smith and Thompson each lost an eye. Nine other officers were severely wounded. Colonel Sawyer's and Adjutant Lewis' horses were both shot in the charge. Still the line taken was held for four hours, under heavy fire, and until released, to effect which an almost entire change of front was made under fire.

From the battle field our brigade was pushed rapidly to Leesburg, Virginia, a tedious and fruitless march. But little

except reconnoisances and skirmishes happened until the battle of Fredricsksburg, December 12th, 1862. In this battle the 8th on the right, and the 4th Ohio and 1st Delaware, in command of Lieutenant-Colonel Sawyer, formed a sort of forlorn hope, being ordered to drive out the sharp shooters, pickets and small parties of troops posted between the city and Marie's Hill, and cut the fences, etc. This was executed to the admiration of all, the regiment taking the position ordered, and to which point no troops got during the fight, in which from eight to ten thousand of our men were slaughtered in one day. In this battle Captain Allen and Sergeant-Major Henthorne and several men were killed and wounded. Our winter quarters were at Falmouth, which we entered on the 10th of January. Colonel Carroll assumed command of our brigade, which he retained until wounded at Spottsylvania, May 12th, 1864.

The next battle was Chancelloroville. The 8th, though engaged in line of battle during the three days, suffered but little, losing but one man, killed, and six wounded.

Next comes the Gettysburg campaign. In this battle the regiment showed conspicuous bravery. It held for twenty-four hours an important point midway between the two armies, which it took at point of the bayonet, and which it held throughout the great battle of the 3d of July, though three times assaulted by superior force, and finally charging in turn captured over five hundred prisoners and three regimental flags. Over half of the regiment then present were killed or wounded. Lieutenant Hayden was killed. Captains Pierce, Miller and Reid, Lieutenants Nickerson, McKesson, and others severely wounded.

From Gettysburg the regiment followed the rebels with its corps, the 2d under General Hancock, being engaged in continual skirmishing, to Harper's Ferry; thence marched to Robinson's River. At this point the regiment was relieved from the front and sent to New York to protect the draft—going by steamer from Alexandria. This was to all a very pleasant episode in our army life.

Returning from New York, we joined our corps at Culpepper. Lee had turned to the right and manœuvered us back to Bull Run. During this retreat the 8th was engaged in a brisk skirmish at Auburn, and in the severe battle at Bristol Station, in which Colonel Carroll's horse was killed, our baggage horses captured, and several men wounded. Then we followed Lee back to Mine Run, in which campaign the 8th participated. In a skirmish at Robinson's Tavern, the 8th was ordered to attack an advanced line of the enemy in a wood, in doing which one man was killed and several wounded, and Colonel Sawyer's horse shot dead in the charge.

At Martin's Ford, February 8th, 1864, the regiment was engaged, fording the river and charging the rebel line.

On the 3d of May, 1864, the regiment, with its corps, the 2d, commanded by General Hancock, crossed the Rapidan for the final campaign. During the afternoon of the 5th, the regiment re-captured a gun lost by General Sedgwick, in which skirmish Lieutenant McKesson was severely wounded. The next day the regiment was under fire all day. Captain Craig was killed, Captain Lewis terribly wounded, besides several of the men. The enemy were closely followed to Spottsylvania, where, on the 9th, our brigade made a desperate charge on the rebel works, losing several wounded, among whom were Lieutenant Huysung and Color-Sergeant Conlan.

At midnight of May 11th, the 2d corps was ordered to the left to ascertain the position of the enemy's right wing. By daylight on the morning of the 12th we were supposed to be in its vicinity. The

8th Ohio and 1st Delaware were ordered forward to clear out an out post in front, where were camped a number of troops in an orchard and negro huts. This was done, when the regiment united with its brigade and division which were moving forward at a quick step to the charge. The enemy refused its right, and we had struck the salient, which was carried as with a whirl-wind. The brigade suffered fearfully. Colonel Coons, of the 14th Indiana, was killed; Colonel Lockwood, 7th West Virginia, was fearfully wounded; several officers of the 4th Ohio were killed, and many men in all four of the regiments were killed; officers and men everywhere fell killed or wounded. In the 8th, Lieutenant Manahan was killed, and several of the men, and a great number wounded. Among the wounded was Lieutenant-Colonel Frank Sawyer, who did not recover to again join the regiment. Sergeant Gallager, color-bearer, was killed. Colonel Carroll then commanding the brigade, was very severely wounded during the day.

The regiment was now placed in command of Major Winslow. It moved forward, and on the 19th participated in the battle at the North Anna, behaving gallantly, and losing four killed and a number wounded; on the 26th again engaged near Hanover Court Hovse; on the 30th, Hancock with his corps drove Lee out of his intrenched lines, in which action the 8th bore its part, losing some men; on the 31st another battle was fought at Cold Harbor, in which the 8th lost six killed and several wounded. The regiment was not seriously engaged again, but followed the fortunes of the 2d corps to the front of Petersburgh, from which place it started home to be mustered out, its term of service having expired. It arrived in Cleveland on the morning of the 3d of July, 1864, and was mustered out the 13th of July, numbering less than 100 rank and file fit for duty.

The regiment had been in 48 battles and skirmishes. It had never wavered in its duty, never lost its position in battle, had never lost but six prisoners and they were wounded and unable to be removed from the field. It had taken four rebel battle flags, and twice its number in prisoners. It had frequently, as a regiment, been commended by commanding Generals, and complimented by Governor Brough as one of the best of Ohio's brave regiments.

The object of this publication is to preserve a history of the soldiers furnished by the Fire Lands, and accordingly the rolls of Companies D and E, the only companies from the Fire Lands, are given below. I regret that the space allowed will not permit the rolls of all the companies.

Company D was mustered into the service for three years May 28th, 1861. The officers were,

Captain, Franklin Sawyer, Norwalk; First Lieutenant, Daniel C. Daggett, Norwalk; Second Lieutenant, A. S. Sutton, Norwalk.

Sergeants.—John Reid, promoted to Captain; Salem T. Howe, discharged—disability; John Briggs, killed at Antietam; Elijah T. Rust, killed at Winchester.

Corporals.—Charles S. Manahan, promoted to 2d Lieutenant, killed at Spottsylvania; Samuel P. Bonett,, 1st sergeant, killed at Fredericksburg: William W. Farmer, killed at Antietam; Ezra Stevens, discharged—disability; William Gridley, wounded at Gettysburg and died; Robert W. Park, discharged for wounds; Ebenezer K. S. Bunco, killed at Winchester; Herbert Bowker, discharged for wounds at Winchester, promoted to 1st Lieutenant in regular army.

Privates.—Albert Yeatman, George H. Allen, Aaron Alvord, Erie county. Silas Bemis, discharged for disability. Ira H. Chandler, promoted to 2d Lieutenant West Virginia Cavalry; Jay L. Curry, dis-

charged for disability; Daniel F. Curtis, same; Michael Dalton, same; Joseph Dewalt, wounded at Gettysburg, Wilderness and Fredericksburg; Clemens Doneman, died at Grafton; V. M. Ennis, promoted to Sergeant, wounded at Gettysburg; David B. Ennis, wounded at Cold Harbor; John Fling, same; Charles Fisher, same; Horace Fling, died in hospital; William S. Foster, promoted to Adjutant 3d O. V. Cavalry; Robert Foster, wounded at Antietam; James Fox, discharged for disability; William Grover; Adam Hammer, discharged for disability; David W. Hindman, wounded at Antietam; Samuel Holmes, discharged for disability; Lucius E. Hoyt, wounded at Antietam, died; Joseph E. Jameson, wounded at Chancellorsville; Charles Johnson, discharged for disability; William H. Jenney, same; Joseph E. Jump, wounded at Antietam; Nathan Jump, wounded at Gettysburg; Charles B. Reeber, died in hospital; Joseph B. Knox; George Kuhnel, discharged for disability; Thomas Lee; Charles A. Locher, wounded at Gettysburg; Collins E. Ludlow; John Marvin, killed in Wilderness; Thomas Matthews, same; Michael McCarthy, discharged for disability; Thomas McHenry, killed at White House, Virginia; Alexander Melville, killed at Antietam; Theron Messenger; Peter Miller; Peter A. Miller, died at Grafton, Virginia; William Mountain, killed at Antietam; Solomon Nason; William F. Parker, wounded at Antietam; Wilson S. Parker, promoted to Sergeant Major; Lucius A. Palmer, discharged for disability; John O. Paine; William S. Raymond, wounded at Antietam, discharged; Josiah Raymond, discharged for disability; William Reynolds, wounded at Antietam, discharged; Casper Rohner, wounded at Fredericksburg, discharged; Lewis Rounds, promoted to Captain in regular army; Lewis S. Rouse, wounded at Bristow Station; Henry G. Rust, wounded at Chancellorsville; Herbert H. Russel, died at Oakland, Virginia; George A. Scott, wounded at Antietam; Frank Shafer, killed at Gettysburg.; Daniel Stark, died in hospital; William Steel, died of wounds at Petersburg; Charles Stewart; Douglass Streeter, deserted; Levi A. Sweet, discharged for disability; James Taggart, killed in Wilderness; Joseph Taylor, died at Petersburg; James Tisdell, wounded at Gettysburg; William J. Ward, died at Stevenson, Virginia; William O. Ward, wounded at Winchester; Samuel T. Ward, same; William Wallace; William W. Wells, wounded at Spottsylvania; Samuel R. Welch, wounded at Gettysburg; John W. White, wounded at Gettysburg; Evan Williams, discharged for disability; David White, killed at Harrison's Landing; Avander White; Christopher C. Wood, discharged for disability; Frederick E. West, wounded in Wilderness; Frederick W. Fowler, discharged for disability.

Company E. was mostly from Erie County; it was mustered into the service May 25th, 1861.

Captain—James E. Gregg.

First Lieutenant—Wells W. Miller, promoted Captain.

Second Lieutenant—Alfred T. Craig, promoted to Captain killed in Wilderness.

Sergeants—Zenas W. Barker, died at Oakland. William D. Witherell, promoted to Captain, wounded at Antietam. John W. DePuy, promoted to Adjutant, wounded at Winchester and Spottsylvania. John H. Jack. Martin Beck.

Corporals—Lester V. McKesson, promoted Second Lieutenant, wounded at Fredericksburg and Wilderness. Leonard D. Smith, promoted Adjutant one hundred and first. Oscar E. Brown, wounded at Gettysburg. Horace H. Bill, promoted to Second Lieutenant, killed at Antietam. Romeo W. Foster, promoted to Sergeant, wounded at Fredericksburg. James Feruald, promoted Second Lieu-

tenant seventy-second Regiment, William L. Beits. Isaac Hinkley, killed at Fredericksburg.

Privates—George Alspaugh; William Brown, deserted. Otto Bosch; George D. Beatty, discharged for disability. Samuel Berry, same. Charles W. Chapman, wounded at Spottsylvania; Charles E. Conner, discharged for disability. John W. Conner, killed at Antietam. Charles Clark.—Aurelius A. Curry, transferred to invalid corps. Philander Derr wounded in Wilderness. Sexton Duly discharged for disability. Jeff Daily wounded in Wilderness, discharged. Major S. Davis wounded. George R. Derr wounded in Wilderness, killed at Cold Harbor. Peter Epp wounded at Antietam, discharged. Samuel Edwards killed at Petersburg. Augustus Fergel wounded at Wilderness, sent to Andersonville. George Flanders wounded at Winchester, discharged. Harrison Graff; Philip Gatz wounded. Philo Grover, Frederick Harrington; William H. Harris; John H. House; John Howard; Stephen Hinkley discharged for disability. Patrick Hinchey discharged taken prisoner. Warren Z. June (D); Anton Knobble discharged for disability. William Lisle wounded at Fredericksburg. Lorenzo Luce; John O. McEnally; Adam Moore; Adam Moose discharged for disability. James D. Martin killed at Winchester. Theodore Meile wounded at Coal Harbor, taken prisoner and sent to Andersonville. Henry Owens wounded at Mine Run; Francis Pearson wounded at Winchester; Thomas H. Pyle discharged for disability; Augustus W. Porter wounded at Gettysburg, killed in Wilderness. Frederick Reutler; Gustavus T. Smith killed at Worthington, Virginia; Lyman Smith died at Grafton; Luman Smith wounded at Winchester, discharged; Merrill L. Starr wounded at Antietam; Hugo C. Springer discharged for disability; Joseph Strible; Peter Shumaker killed at Winchester; Frank L. Soffe[illegible]ngs wounded at Antietam, discharged; Charles Simpson; John Smith killed at Patterson's Creek, Virginia; Franklin Troug killed at Antietam; Alfred J. Vining; Valentine Walter; George R. Walsh wounded at Winchester and Wilderness; Horace R. Wood; Ebenezer R. Warren transferred to invalid corps. Fayette Walcott wounded at Antietam, discharged; James M. Webber; Christopher W. Waddell; William Wilson discharged for disabil[illegible]; Alfred Yeoman joined invalid corps; Frederick Zorn wounded in Wilderness; John Allen; Frederick Allen; Jahiel Bair; Charles Cartwright; Frank E. Center wounded at Gettysburg; Richard F. Gray; Harry A. Haines; James Jones; John McGinness; Paul Williams wounded; Joseph T. Smith; Charles Warren; Henry McDermot joined sixth Wisconsin Cavalry; John Daily discharged for disability; William Lisle killed at Winchester; Edgar Reed discharged for disability; Isaac Wilson; Henry D. C. Mill wounded at Antietam, discharged; Martin Beck joined U. S. cavalry; Harmon Graff same; James Smeeson wounded at Gettysburg, killed at Cold Harbor; Richard D. Brewer wounded at Gettysburg.

COMPANY "D" THIRTY-FOURTH O. V. I. REGIMENT.

BY CAPTAIN L. E. MERRY.

The thirty-fourth regiment Ohio volunteer infantry, of which company D was a part, was organized under a special order from Secretary of War, Cameron, to A Saunders Piatt, dated May, 1861. The regiment was formed mostly from the southern part of the State, Cincinnati furnishing four companies and rendezvoued at Camp Lucas, near Olive Branch, Clermont county, Ohio, and designated as the Piatt Zouaves, was entered on the books at Columbus, as the thirty-fourth regi-

ment. The original roll of field and staff consisted of

Colonel—A. Saunders Piatt, promoted to Brigadier-General in 1862.

Lieutenant-Colonel—John T. Toland, promoted Colonel in 1862.

Major—F. E. Franklin, promoted Lieutenant-Colonel in 1862, and Colonel in 1863.

Surgeon—W. R. S. Clark, resigned in 1862.

Assistant-Surgeon—J. H. Ayers, promoted Surgeon in 1862.

Adjutant—E. W. Clark, Jr.

Chaplain—George W. Collier.

The regiment was mustered into the United States service, September 13th, and immediately ordered to West Virginia, and assigned to the immediate command of General J. D. Cox, General W. S. Rosecrans, commanding department.

Company D was formed from Bellevue and Kenton.

The roster from Bellevue was as follows:

First-Lieutenant—Hiram Peck, promoted to Captain company G.

Second-Lieutenant—L. E. Merry, promoted to Captain of company D.

Sergeants—C. C. Cook, John E. Goodrich and O. H. Merry.

Corporals—I. P. Grover, Stephen Merry, J. W. Smith, H. F. Ransome and James M. Wright.

Musicians—J. W. Alexander and Seth H. Cook.

Teamsters—George A. Grover and Peter Huffman.

Privates—H. B. Alverson, E. C. Culver, Phillip J. Zerba, John Dockerville, Edwin Grey, Francis P. Getson, Martin Hoover, John S. Hummell, James Hermance, George E. Kinney, William Maxwell, Abner Perry, Andrew J. Pickard, J. W. Rhinehart, Northam M. Strong, George P. Campbell, John Cerbe, John Castelow, Joseph Firth, Conrod Getson, Dewitt Gregory, James Alum, John C. Harris, Williard H. King, Anton Kehl, Michael McCartha, James H. Payne, Benjamin G. Rushton, James W. Ryan, G. E. Sweetland, Frederick Schemps, J. M. Terwilliger, Edward Weaver, Harry Acker, Emanuel Baker, Samuel Crouse, Michael Heffner, Reuben Hiskey, Peter Kuhn, William G. Mall, Jacob Shadle, Alexander A. Sloan, George Schuster, George Wells, Henry Zeiber, Joseph Bartlett, John Shepard, Robert H. Tweedney, Jerry Ingle, Charles Babbitt, John Clemmens, Jacob Dennis, H. Horner, Wilson S. Korner, John Leinbaugh, Lewis B. Royer, William H. Shadle, Isaac Swart, Joseph Stroup, Jacob Well, Samuel A. Derr, George Hempstead, James Albion.

The duty done by the regiment for the first year, was scouting and out-post in the mountains of West Virginia. Spent the first winter at Barboursville, Coble county. December twelfth, a small party was sent out, consisting of John Cerbe and John Castelow of company D, and one man from company G. They were captured by the bush-whackers and brutally murdered. They were the first men lost from the company. May 16th, at Princeton, the company lost heavily in killed, wounded and taken prisoners; and again at Fayettville, September 10th, 1862. The regiment went into the engagement with about 350 men and officers, four companies being absent, and lost 137 men killed, wounded and taken prisoners; and nine officers out of thirteen, company D losing its ratio of men. We met the Rebel General Loring, with some six or eight thousand men. He was kept in check all day by the command of Colonel Seibert, commanding the thirty-seventh German regiment and companies of the thirty-fourth. Our forces retreated on the morning of the fourth, and making junction with the balance of the Kanawha Division under Colonel Lightbarn at Gauley; Loring following close on us, until the fourteenth, when our forces

made a stand at Charleston, and fought the battle of Charleston, retreating in the night towards the Ohio river, which was reached about the eighteenth or nineteenth at Ravenswood, where we were heavily reinforced by the Squirrel-Hunters of eastern Ohio. We moved down the Ohio to Pt. Pleasant, where we found the ninety-first and ninety-second Ohio in camp. We were afterwards reinforced by General J. D. Cox, and General G. W. Morgan. The last of October an advance was made up the Kanawha, driving General Loring and his forces over the mountains again. The valley was never again in their possession. In the spring of 1863, the regiment was mounted, and was afterward called both cavalry and infantry, and had to do the duty of both. In July, 1863, participated in a raid on Wytheville, a station on the Virginia and East Tennesee railroad. The command consisted of two squadrons of the first Ohio, the second Virginia cavalry regiment and the thirty-fourth Ohio volunteer mounted infantry, under command of Colonel J. F. Toland, of the thirty-fourth. We captured the place with but small loss in numbers, but still meeting a severe loss in Colonel J. F. Toland, who was instantly killed. Colonel Powell, of the second, wounded and lett a prisoner, Captain DeLancy, of the first Ohio volunteer cavalry, killed. The command suffered severely for want of provision for men and forage for horses, being compelled to take to the mountains on account of heavy rebel forces in our rear. It was a glad day to the survivors of the raid, when we met our forces with provisions for us; hard-tack was as good as pound cake. Wintered at Charleston, put in the time in making raids to Lewisburg, Virginia, in connection with General W. W. Averill, from Beverly.

In May, 1864, moved under the command of General Averill, of the cavalry, and General George Cook commanding all to Wytheville and Dublin Depot on the Virginia railroad. Averill being repulsed at the gap near Wytheville by Morgan, Crooks, with the infantry fought the battle of Dublin Depot. The rebel forces were under the command of General Jenkins; Crooks taking the depot and burning a very important bridge over the New river. The cavalry and infantry forming connection near Lewisburg, Greenbriar county, June 1st, moved toward Staunton, forming a junction with Gen eral Hunter at that point, and participated in the raid on Lynchburg, and the retreat; arriving at Charleston June 30th. July 11th, 1864, was ordered to the Shenandoah Valley to reinforce the troops there. We participated in all the battles and skirmishes of that famous Valley in the summer and fall of 1864, under the command of General Sheridan; being merged into the eighth army corps and department of West Virginia. In February, 1865, being reduced to so small a command the regiment was consolidated with the thirty-sixth and known as the thirty-sixth regiment until mustered out at Columbus, Ohio, on account of the close of the war.

LIST OF CASUALTIES IN COMPANY D, THIRTY FOURTH REGIMENT.

Lieutenant H. Peck, wounded in arm and side, and taken prisoner at Princeton, May 16, 1862.

Corporal Stephen Merry, wounded in both legs and taken prisoner at Princeton, Virginia, May 16, 1862. Discharged at Columbus.

Corporal H. F. Ransome, wounded and taken prisoner, at Princeton, Virginia, May 16, 1862; paroled and died at Raleigh, June, 1862.

J. W. Alexander, wounded in hand at Charleston, September, 1862.

H. J. Rickford, wounded and taken prisoner at Princeton, wounded again at Lynchburg, and prisoner at Andersonville eight months.

Benjamin G. Rushton, wounded at Fayettville, September 10th, 1862.

J. W. Rhinehart, wounded at Winchester, 1864.

E. C. Culver, wounded at Fayetteville, September 10th, 1862.

George P. Campbell, wounded at Fayetteville, September 10th, 1862.

John Cerbe, killed by bush-whacker, December 12th, 1861.

John Castelow, killed by bush-whacker December 12th, 1861.

John Dockerill, wounded at Princeton, Virginia, May 16th, 1862.

Joseph Firth, killed at Collahan Station, Virginia, June, 1864.

Conrad Getson, killed at Fayetteville, September 10, 1862.

Gregory DeWitt, wounded at Fayetteville, Virginia, September 10th, 1862.

James Hermance, died from effects of Andersonville, 1864.

Michael McCartha, died at Fayetteville, Virginia, February, 13th, 1863.

John O'Tool, wounded and taken prisoner at Fayetteville, September 10th, 1862.

Charles Babbitt, wounded at Winchester, 1864.

John Clemmens, killed at Wytheville, July, 1863.

William H. Shadle, wounded at Lynchburg, June, 1864.

Alexander A. Sloan, wounded at Lynchburg, June, 1864.

Lieutenant Samuel .A Derr, killed at Lynchburg, June, 1864.

Isaac Swartz, killed near Wytheville, May, 1864.

James Albion, killed at Winchester, 1864.

Sergeant J. E. Wright, died with smallpox, at Fayetteville, 1863.

Williard A. King, died with fever, at Raleigh, 1862.

Samuel Crouse, died with fever, at Cumberland, Maryland, 1864.

Jacob Dennis, killed at Winchester, 1864.

VOLUNTEERS IN THE MEXICAN WAR.

The following is the Muster Roll of the men who formed Captain Chauncey Woodruff's company in the 3d Regiment of the Ohio Volunteers, commanded by Samuel K. Curtis, called into the service of the United States by the President, under the Act of Congress approved May 13, 1846. They were all but two enrolled at Norwalk, by General McLaughlin, and were mustered into service at Camp Washington, Cincinnati, by Captain Shriver, June 24, 1846, and were discharged August 31, 1846:

OFFICERS.

Chauncey Woodruff, Captain; Wm. W. Robinson, First Lieutenant; Owen Francis, Second Lieutenant; Edward T. Croxford, Second Lieutenant; Benjamin R. Pratt, Sergeant; Ebenezer S. Sacket, Sergeant; Samuel Haskell, Sergeant; Daaiel Teslie, Sergeant; Charles Tupper, Corporal; Hiram Brant, Corporal; Elie D. Eaton, Corporal; Samuel N. Terrillanim, Corporal; Benjamin F. Pickard, Musician.

PRIVATES.

John Austin, Wm. W. Ackerman, Silas Bemus, Joseph Bosler, Mathew R. Birdsell, Charles Baily, John Van Buskirk, Albert Bartholomew, Samuel Barns, Hudson T. Curtis, Alexander Cole, John D. Curtis, George Clark, Leonard C. Cronk, William Church, Milo Caton, Hiram. A. Curtis, Orlando Chamberlin, David M. Catlin, George Dart, Joseph Dunlap, Samuel C. Dean, George S. Davis, James Elliot, Jasper Flint, Cyrus Francis, Samuel W. Gorden, John Gingerich, George H. Goodwin, Joseph Hoover, Sylvester Hoyt, John Jones, Alfred Jacobs, Newton Leonard, Sidney C. Miller, John McGookey, Tibius Mabie, Simon Preston, Husted Pierce, William McPherson, George I. Read, Henry Ray, Joseph Smith, Edward D. Stephens, Alfred B. Stephens, Samuel Shields, Andrew I. Todd, Warren Z. Webster, James A. Wilson, Reuben I. Woolcot,

George Woolcot. Harry Woodruff, Fry William, Thomas Rily, James G. Wilson, Charles Burr, John Gruesbeck, Ambrose Steel.

Charles Burr died at Brazos, Santiago, July 28, 1846, of solar remittent fever.

John Gruesbeck died at the same place, July 31, 1846, of congestion of the brain.

Ambrose Steel was discharged at Matamoras, August 17, 1846, on Surgeon's certificate.

ITEMS FROM THE BATTLE FIELDS.

BY CAPTAIN CHAUNCEY WOODRUFF.

The last volume of the "Pioneer" contains an interesting historical sketch of the one hundred and twenty-third Regiment O. V. I., which ought to be read by every survivor of that organization. It would be interesting to know how many Ohio regiments had men in their ranks from the Firelands. In ten graves in our vicinity lie soldiers of five regiments. I have thought that perhaps a few statistics and incidents which I have collected from the histories of some of the other military organizations of the State might interest some of your readers. One extraordinary feature in the service was the distance they marched or were transported. The query arises to some at least whether there was not too much physical force expended in this kind of service. The historian of the one hundred and twenty-third states that they marched 2,184 miles, and traveled by rail and steamboat 2,584 more. Large as these figures appear, they are only moderate compared with some. The records of the first regiment show that they traveled, while in the service, 3,450 miles. The fifty-fourth, a distance of 3,662; the fifty-third, 6,400; the seventy-sixth, 9,600; the the ninety-sixth, 9,886; the one hundred and fourteenth and sixty-fifth, each over 10,000;and the thirtyth 13.200. The sixty-eighth marched over 7,000 miles and was transported 6,000 more. The twenty-fifth Ohio Battery shows a record of 6,351 miles travel. To give an idea of the amount of ammunition used we will give two or three items:

The seventeenth Ohio Independent Battery, while in the field, fired 14,000 rounds of ammunition. The twenty-first regiment, at the battle of Chickamauga, used 43,500 rounds of Colt's fixed ammunition. General Newton's Division, on the eighteenth of June, 1864, near Kenesaw Mountain, used 250,000 rounds, and as was said at the time, "'twasn't much of a day for fighting, either," as the rain poured down in torrents. "A regular Water-loo day," as a wag remarked who remembered it was the Englishman's anniversary. The severity of some of the engagements is manifest in the fall of the flag bearers.—The thirty-first Ohio had six killed at Perryville. The fifth had five cut down at Winchester; seven fell at a single charge near Ringgold from the seventy-sixth; The seventy-ninth lost seven in all, and the twenty-fourth had three hilled and seven wounded. Two within five minutes were killed at Stone River. In the Pioneer's sketch of the one hundred and twenty-third, forty-five men were killed in action and one hundred and thirty-one died from wounds and disease—total mortality, one hundred and sixty-five. Now let us look at these ghastly records among some of the other Regiments. The fifteenth had fifty-eight killed and three hundred and seventeen wounded. The twenty-eighth had ninety-nine killed and one hundred and sixty-two wounded. The sixty-fifth had twenty-five officers killed or wounded and four hundred and forty-two men. The second had one hundred and eleven killed and four hundred and eleven wounded. The first lost in killed and wounded five hundred and twenty seven. The forty-sixth had seven hundred and five men killed, wounded or died of

disease. The one hundred and eleventh mortality list is four hundred and twenty-five. The one hundred and twenty-sixth had one hundred and twenty killed and three hundred and eighty-nine wounded. The ninety-seventh, in the Atlanta campaign, lost one hundred and thirteen killed and five hundred and sixty wounded. The seventy-third had two hundred and eighty-five killed or died of wounds and five hundred and eighty-six wounded survived at close of war. Of one thousand five hundred and ninety-four men on the rolls of the fifty-seventh, one thousand one hundred and thirteen were dead when the regiment was mustered out. The fifty-fifth lost in killed and wounded seven hundred and fifty, sixteen of whom were officers. The forty-sixth had one hundred and twenty-seven killed in battle, seventy-one mortally wounded, one hundred and sixty-four died of disease, and nine hundred and twelve were struck with balls.

In single combat some of the regiments' losses were frightful. At Perryville the third lost in killed and wounded two hundred and fifteen. The one hundred and sixth at same battle had six officers and forty-seven men killed and two hundred and twelve wounded. At the charge on Taylor's Ridge, Georgia, two hundred out of three hundred men in the seventh were struck, and every commissioned officer was killed or wounded. The seventeenth, at Chickamauga, had over two hundred struck. The twenty-sixth, at same engagement, lost three-fifths of those engaged, and company H. all its officers, and twenty-one out of twenty-four men. The thirty-sixth had seventy killed in this battle. The twenty-fifth, at Chancellorsville and Gettysburg lost every officer above First Lieutenant, thirty-seven killed and two hundred and thirty-three wounded. In the second battle of Bull Run the colors of the regiment were struck ninety times, and out of two hundred and ninety-two engaged, sixty-three were killed and one hundred and six wounded. The one hundred and first at Stone River had seven officers and two hundred and twelve men shot down. At Gettysburg the one hundred and seventh lost over four hundred out of five hundred and fifty engaged. The ninty-seventh, out of one hundred and fifty-three who charged on Kenesaw, one hundred and twelve were killed or wounded in fifteen minutes. The eighty-second leads all others in the mortality of its officers. Seventeen of them sealed their devotion to their country by sacrificing their lives upon its altar, some of them as valuable as were ever offered on its sacred shrine.

We have room for only a single item from the Cavalry arm of the service. The second Ohio fought under the following Generals: Buell, Wright, Hunter, Denver, Sturgis, Blunt, Salomon, Curtis, Schofield, Burnside, Carter, Gillmore, Shackelford, Foster, Kautz, Sedgewick, Wilson, McIntosh, Torbert, Custer, Sheridan, Mead and Grant. Its horses have drank from, and its troops have bathed in, the waters of the Arkansas, Kaw, Osage, Cyprus, Missouri, Mississippi, Ohio, Scioto, Miami, Cumberland Tennessee, Holston, Potomac, Shenandoah, Rappahannock, Rapidan, Bull Run, Mattapony, Tamunkey, Chickahominy, James, Appomattox, Blackwater, Nottoway, and Chesapeake. It campaigned through thirteen States and one Territory, marched twenty-seven thousand miles, participated in ninety-nine engagements, and its dead sleeping where they fell form a vidette line half across the continent, a chain of prostrate sentinels two thousand miles long, and their historian eloquently adds, "Even in their graves may not these patriot dead still guard the glory and the integrity of the Republic for which they fell?"

A few incidents will close this sketch.

While the one hundred and twenty-fourth regiment were encamped in East Tennessee, while the men were ragged, dirty and unseemly in their appearance, a Yankee officer procured materials and manufactured a quantity of soap, and astonished the rest of the command by the transformed appearance it gave to his men, so much so that a wag remarked that they would be allowed to vote at the next election, owing to the preponderance of white blood in their faces. At Goldsboro, North Carolina, the Adjutant's report of the sixty-eighth regiment showed forty-two men bare-footed, thirty-six bare-headed, and two hundred and sixty wearing some article of citizen's clothes. At the battle of Stone River private Brown, of the fifty-ninth, single handed, captured a rebel lieutenant and twenty-seven men, who were hiding in some crevices of the rock near the road. On the eighteenth of June, 1864 private Peter Cupp, of the fifteenth, while taking to the rear two stragglers, suddenly came upon a rebel picket that had been forgotten in the retreat. He announced to them their situation, ordered them to stack arms, which they did, and he marched one Captain, one Lieutenant and sixteen men back as prisoners of war. A writer who was with the thirtith, when it was known that Lee and Johnston had surrendered, said, "the men seemed crazy with joy; they shouted, they laughed, flung their hats in the air, their knapsacks at each other, rolled on the ground, and stood on their heads in the mud."

It is a pleasure to read such incidents as the following, especially at this time, as the subject of the sketch is getting some left-handed compliments now from those who didn't admire his tactics then: A writer of the twenty-third, after describing the disastrous surprise and retreat down the Shenandoah, October 19th 1864, says: "We were halted, and the enemy were shelling us. General Crook lay a couple of rods away from the line, where he was greatly exposed. Colonel Hayes lay close by, badly bruised from his fall, and grumbling because the troops did not charge the enemy's lines instead of waiting to be charged upon. Suddenly there is a dust in the rear on the Winchester pike, and almost before they are aware a young man in full Major General's uniform, and riding furiously a magnificent black horse literally flecked with foam, runs up and springs off by General Crook's side. There is a perfect roar as they recognize Sheridan. He talks with Crook a little while, cutting away at the tops of the weeds with his whip. Crook speaks a half dozen sentences that sound very much like the crack of the whip. By this time some of the staff are up. They are sent flying in different directions. Sheridan and Crook lie down and seem to be talking and all is quiet save the vicious shells of the batteries and the roar of artillery along the line. After a while Colonel Forsythe comes down in front and shouts to the General, "The nineteenth Corps is closed up, sir!" Sheridan jumps up, gives one more cut with his whip, whirls himself around once, jumps on his horse and starts up the line. Just as he starts he says to the men, "We are going to have a good thing on them now, boys!" And so he rode off, and a long wave of yells rolled up the right with him. The rest of this day is recorded in the pride and affection of every American heart that boats in a loyal bosom.

PIONEER HISTORY.

PIONEER INCIDENTS IN THE LIFE OF SUSAN A. WILBOR, OF MILAN.

The following unfinished autobiography was being prepared by Mrs. Wilbor, previous to her last illness, and has been since completed by her daughter :

" My father, Orsamus Kellogg, Sr., was born in Sheffield, Berkshire county, Massachusetts, May 12th, 1770 ; married December 1796, in New York City, to Esther Kimberly, who was born in New Haven, Connecticut, 1770.

At the time of my father's marriage, and for some time after, he was a merchant at Lansingburg, New York. From thence, he removed to Genesee county, New York, where he purchased a quarter section of what was then known as the " Holland Purchase," which he improved and sold for farms. In 1811, he removed with his family, to Townsend, Huron county, Ohio, where he was engaged as county surveyer and land agent. He also bought land and improved it for a farm. At one time he was coroner, and at the time of his death, which occurred in 1819, was candidate for sheriff.

The cause of his leaving his home in New York, and coming to the " Fire Lands," was partly from inducements held forth by Kneeland Townsend Sr., who had been here previously, and purchased a large tract of land, at twenty-five cents an acre. But not wishing to remain here, he promised to deed my father a quarter section in Townsend, if he would remove there and act as agent for him. My father acceded to his proposal, but did not realize his expectations, as Mr. Townsend did not hold to his agreement.

About the middle of June, 1811, my father's family, consisting of father, mother, three brothers, two sisters and myself, started from Batavia, Genesee county, New York, for Ohio. We had a span of horses and one other to be used as a saddle horse, or for a leader with the span, when necessary, which latter was the case very often. Few families at that time had a wagon, mostly all came, and brought their effects, on horse. Our furniture was put aboard a vessel at Black Rock, to be landed at Huron or Sandusky ; but landing being very uncertain, on account of sand banks, it was carried on to Detroit. Subsequently it was brougnt to Sandusky, where we obtained it. My father went for it, over sixteen miles—the road being only an Indian trail. Our bedding, clothing and provisions were brought in the wagon. Mother, my elder sister, and the two youngest children rode ; my father, two older brothers, aged respectively ten and twelve years, and myself aged seven, walked nearly the whole distance ; seldom rode, only when crossing streams.

I remember I rode once, only *half* way across one, as my horse stopped and could not be persuaded to carry me farther; my father waded in, took me from the horse, and led it the rest of the way through, when it fell dead. Our journey was at a time when nature was attractive; foliage and flowers were in great abundance; the newness and variety of scenery offered all the way long, together with many pleasing little episodes, lent a tinge of romance to our experience, which was a pleasure rather than a hardship. At Buffalo, we were joined by three other families who traveled in company with us a part of the way, but soon fell back, as they did not have as good a team as we, and were more heavily laden. One man by the name of Kent, sent his family by a vessel from Buffalo, he joining us in the walk. We were obliged to go a distance of four miles through the Cataraugus woods—which was a swamp—or go around three rock-bound points. The last one was farther around than the first two—distance being a mile. It was dangerous passing these points, unless it was very calm, which was the case when we passed; but there was liability of a breeze arising at any moment, as well as other danger attending the attempt. There were deep crevices in the rocky bottom. Mr. Kent acted as pilot, traveling ahead with a long pole; and when he came to the dangerous crevices would warn us; thus we passed the last point in safety, at the hazard of our lives. The water was up to the wagon-box all the way through; not a word was spoken by one of us. We saw the remains of a family who undertook the passage a year previous, but were wrecked by a sudden squall.

The next place we reached was Dunkirk, and the next Erie, where Mr. Kent left us. We stopped at Painesville a few hours; here, there were but few inhabitants. We reached Cleveland on the fourth of July, 1811, in time for dinner. At this place there were only three or four log houses, and a one and a half story house, which was the was the "Hotel," the name of the proprietor was Norton. I have not forgotten the feast I enjoyed there of green peas and warm biscuit; the best meal I had, since leaving home. We left Cleveland after dinner, crossing Cuyahoga river on a scow. Seven miles distant, we forded Rocky river; reached Black river the night of the fourth, where we remained all night with a family by the name of Reed. Only a few families were settled here. We passed through Vermillion, stopping for refreshment, and reached the mouth of Huron river where we spent the night of the fifth of July with a man named Flemming—a French trader and Indian interpreter. We left there the next morning, stopping for dinner at Mr. Laughlin's and called at Mr. John Hoak's, the two only families on our route from Huron.

The last two miles of the route was through a dense forest, with no wagon track; hence we were detained until my father, with the aid of only my two little brothers could clear one. After reaching Townsend, our place of destination, our family of eight remained a month with Mr. Burdue, whose family consisted of four. There was only one room in their house, and that not a large one. At the end of the month we moved into our new house, two miles distant from Mr. Burdue in the northeastern part of the township. It was but partially completed; three logs were cut out for a door. There was enough puncheon floor in one corner for a bed; the wagon-box furnished foundation for two more. My father procured three large stones from a creek near by to set up against the logs to form a fireplace; there was merely a hole in the roof for the smoke to escape.

By degrees, the house was finished, to be as comfortable as was possible in those times. Father soon had our farm stocked,

and with perseverance and patience, we continued to prosper, and call it home, for about a year; yet not without a great deal of anxiety caused by rumors of war. Many people were so alarmed as to leave the country in the spring of 1812; among whom were the families of Mr. Burdue and Mr. Miller, leaving our family the only one in the township. About two miles north of us, in Berlin township, were our nearest neighbors, Hoak and Laughlin. Seven miles south, was the family of Mr. Newcomb, our next nearest neighbor, and the only one between us and Mansfield, and they lived two miles off from the main road. The only families between us and Norwalk, were those of Mr. Middleton and Abijah Comstock.

From early spring until August, we lived in constant fear, from apprehension of trouble with the Indians. There were a great many of them; we occasionally exchanged provisions for their game. We were annoyed exceedingly, by their insolence, in demanding whatever article of food, drink, etc., they wished; not daring to refuse them, their orders were complied with, if possible; their invariable call, was for "*fire-water.*" They left, however, for Canada, as soon as war was declared in June, 1812. From early spring until July, there were four men who made our house their home; two of them had taken land and were making improvements, with the intention of bringing their families the following year. The other two were unmarried, and engaged at work on the State road to Mansfield. The war excitement caused them all to leave us, except one—Mr. Seymour—who was killed by the Indians at Fort Avery, while cutting the "bee tree." From the time of their leaving us in July, we were entirely alone until the time of Hull's surrender. The intelligence was brought to us on the night of the twenty-fifth of August. It was a memorable night. As we had been in constant expectation of unfavorable news, sleep was never sound; consequently, at the first approaching sound of the messenger, all was excitement. My father sprang to his feet with loaded gun, ready to shoot Indians or any other foe. It proved to be a friend—Mr. Leland, from Huron—who had come to inform us of Hull's surrender, and that the British and Indians were seen landing at Sandusky that evening, and would, in all probability, be in Huron the next morning. He wanted us to be off if possible, before daylight. It was then one o'clock, dark and stormy. We immediately began preparations for our flight. We had a washing of clothes at the creek at the foot of a hill, a few rods from the house, of course, we did not wish to go without them. Accordingly, my elder sister and brother went with a torch to bring them to the house, when we spread them around a blazing fire to dry. Father began to make ready the team; but the horses had been turned in the woods, without their bells; for the first time they had been forgotten; he found them five miles distant from the house. He then cut some poles and made the framework for a cover to our wagon. We buried and concealed our dishes and furniture in brush-heaps and in the ground. With these hurried preparations, we did not get away until noon of the next day. We traveled a part of the way in company with Mr. Hoak's family. Often some of the party would get lost. We were in constant anxiety day and night. Every unusual sound excited fear of trouble. One very dark night, I remember particularly, when we were separated from the rest of the party, the dark body of woods surrounding us, the starless heavens, the silence and the mystery of a strange place, the expectation of momentary appearance of the Indians, have all remained indelibly impressed upon my mind. We encamped in the woods, on the ground

seven nights. One morning, upon arising from a night's rest, imagine our horror, if possible, when we found, upon disturbing our bed, that six large rattlesnakes had taken their repose under it.

Numerous exciting events attended our journey, yet nothing serious happening to us, we reached Mentor in safety, where we remained through the winter. There we distinctly saw the fire when Buffalo was burned.

In the following spring we made anoth tedious journey to our deserted home. Mr. Newcomb and Mr. Laughlin accompanied us part of the way. When we reached Black River, we found it could not be forded, as it was in time of high water and the current very rapid. Hence it was necessary to fell a tree in order to cross; but as it reached only half way, another must be felled on the opposite side to meet it. Mr. Newcomb undertook the perilous adventure of swimming across for that purpose. With one end of a rope fastened around him, the other held by my father, he entered the water, but great was the alarm when we felt that he would inevitably be carried under by the current. Father loosened his hold of the rope that he might control his own movements, when he drifted down the stream and by great effort saved himself. Mr. Laughlin declared he would swim across or be drowned. With one end of the rope attached to him, he boldly started and swam nearly straight across. Father then fastened an ax to the other end of the rope, which Mr. Laughlin drew across and cut down a tree which met the other, thereby enabling us and our chattels to be conveyed across. While one wagon was being drawn over by means of a rope, it was turned over three times by the strong current, the last time bringing it right side up.

When we reached home we found that nearly everything was demolished. Most of our concealed household goods had been found and destroyed. Our home was in a damaged condition. Apparently an effort had been made by the hand of the despoiler, to leave nothing undisturbed, with *one* exception; we found a large wooden bowl of huckleberries just where we left them, on the floor in one corner of the room.

It required indomitable courage and patience (which had already become our principal garments), to renew our struggles for a permanent home.

Those early day privations and labors required to bring into subjection the formidable barriers to success, are but feebly realized by the younger people of this age of progress, of steam, of social "go-aheadativeness."

Although we repeatedly felt the want and the difficulty of obtaining the necessary means of subsistence and comfort, much we had for which to be thankful. At times there was a scarcity of salt, and we were obliged to go a long distance to get a teacup full.

The unbroken forests furnished plenty of building material and fuel. The woods abounded in game, and fresh meat was plentiful. Deer were numerous, affording a staple means of subsistence. We had natural fruit, such as grapes, plums, huckleberries, blackberries, cranberries and crab apples, but no other kind of apples, until the veritable "Johnny Appleseed" made his appearance; when, not many years after, we had fine, growing orchards, yielding a variety of fruit. Maple sugar we had in abundance, of our manufacture.

The woody thickets of this section concealed the haunts of the bear, opossum, raccoon and wolf. The latter were continually committing depredations by killing and carrying off our calves, sheep, swine, &c. A wolf serenade was no variety. Often in large numbers, they would surround our dwelling at night, with fierce and hideous howls. It was neces-

sary to carry torches of hickory bark to keep them at bay, when we were out at night. Rattlesnakes and enormous black snakes were numerous. Seldom did we venture from home without expecting to make the acquaintance of one or more, and armed ourselves accordingly. When but twelve years old my adventures in that line were numerous. Father and another man killed at Rattlesnake Den, about two miles distant from us, at one time a large number of snakes, which he brought home; their fat being removed, we used it for lamp oil and for softening shoes, for which purpose it is admirably adapted. Bear's oil was used for the same purpose. Our lamps were made by winding a piece of cloth around a button, leaving an edge a little above it for a wick, and floating it in a saucer of oil. When a taller lamp was desired, the saucer was mounted on a sugar bowl or some other high standing dish. The light thus afforded was rather dim, but the fire in our extensive fireplace supplied the deficiency.

Every family was a manufacturing establishment to a certain extent. We raised flax and made thread, and carded, spun, wove, colored, cut and made our own garments. Oak bark and the shucks of walnuts and butternuts served as coloring materials. We purchased needles and pins of occasional peddlers. My first needle was a birthday present from an aunt, and for years I carefully preserved it—my only needle. The deficiency in pins was supplied by a certain kind of thorn which were plentiful.

It was some time before we raised broom corn, and until then, we manufactured brooms by taking a hickory or maple stick of sufficient length to form the handle and brush, the latter being made by splintering the end finely with a knife and fastening them, as ours are now fastened, with a string of flax or hemp, and with them we made a "clean sweep." In order to supply the various demands of appetite, how often was genius called into action to furnish a substitute, when we lacked the genuine article. For instance, in making mince pies, cranberries were used instead of apples, the juice of frozen pumpkins boiled down for molasses, and venison in lieu of beef. The fat of bears and rabbits was often used for shortening pie crust. Salaratus we made by burning corn cobs to ashes.

Much of our time was devoted to the entertainment of travelers, who always found a welcome in our home. We daily felt the necessity of being prepared to provide food and lodging for more than our own family. Numberless times were we called up in the night to prepare meals for a whole family of strangers, and give them accommodation for the remainder of the night. Hospitality was one of our commandments.

Year by year, houses multiplied in our section, improvements increased, and we began to feel that we had a settled home.

Coeval with the first inhabitants, the need of religious instruction was felt. Mr. Coe, a Methodist minister, held services about once a month in our region; sometimes at our house. At one time, when Elder Barber, of Townsend, was leading a meeting at Mr. Kilburn's, in our vicinity, the latter had a hive of bees swarm; he excused himself, went out, hived the bees and returned to the meeting.

School privileges were limited. My first text book was the Bible; from that I learned my letters and to read.

We regret that the foregoing could not have been completed by our mother, as there were more facts connected with pioneer life, that she might have added worthy a place in the record lives of the noble "old pioneers," who are fast passing away, leaving none to recall to the rising generation those days of hardship, of remarkable energy and determination

in establishing their homes in the "western wilds." And we, who are reaping the abundant harvest of their plowing and sowing, owe to them a never-ending debt of gratitude.

The subject of the above sketch, Miss Susan A. Kellogg, was married to P. Wilbor on the 2d of November, 1830. Seven children, two sons and five daughters, were born to them, of whom three survive. She continued to live at Milan, Ohio, from the year 1820 until her death. She died there May 26, 1875, of typhoid fever, after a lingering illness, aged 71 years, 2 months and 17 days.

The previous death of her husband hastened her own. "The severing of one life cord loosened the other. She was untiring in her devotion to the interests of her family. Being possessed of quickly perceptive qualities, she was ever competent in the care of it. No sacrifice accounted too great to be made. And not unfrequently, beyond the limits of her home circle, was self made subservient to the wants of others. Her fondness for reading kept her conversant with the topics of the day, and together with her facile manner of communicating knowledge, she was a very profitable acquaintance. She was notably thorough and persevering in all her undertakings; and in her needlework excelling; in her last days, was exhibited her skill in this respect. Among specimens of her work of former years is her wedding dress of white knotted muslin, the knotting being the patent work of her own hands, as was the embroidery used in trimming; all of which work one might *now* be glad to claim as their own.

But she has finished her course, and her works do follow her. Although her life may no longer speak to us, its memory will be a constant impulse to well doing

BIOGRAPHY OF H. M. CUNNINGHAM, OF CLARKSFIELD.

BY HIS SON, J. O. CUNNINGHAM.

My father, Hiram May Cunningham, was born at Unadilla, New York, on the 27th day of November, 1703. His parents, Layton Cunningham and Phoebe May, were from Connecticut. About the year 1808, the family moved to what was then known as "Holland Purchase," a tract embracing two or three counties in Western New York. The family settled upon a wild heavy timbered tract of land in what is now known as Lancaster, Erie county, about eighteen miles east of Buffalo. The entire country of western New York, now so highly improved and productive, was then an unbroken wilderness, inhabited only by an occasional white settler, the wild Indian and the usual savage denizens of the forest. A clearing was made in the wilderness and a cabin erected, where by the aid of his eight sons (of whom the subject of this sketch was the sixth), and four daughters, a pioneer's home and sustenance were made.

The war with Great Britain commencing in 1812, brought great distress to the inhabitants of the entire Canadian frontier. This part of the country was often subject to the invasions of the British troops and their savage allies. This family with all their neighbors, at one time fled with their effects to an asylum farther in the interior, and remained until the threatening danger had passed away.

The "frontier" having followed the star of empire to the foot of the Rocky Mountains, this country with others, which, in turn have borne this term, is wonderfully changed. The mouth of Buffalo creek, then the residence of a few pioneers, has become a mighty city, and the great New York Central Railroad runs its magnificent trains directly across the farm of this pioneer family.

The subject of this sketch had but few opportunities for obtaining an education, such, only, as were possessed by the early settlers of that. Upon arriving at mature age, he at once put himself under the

tutelage of an aged, educated minister of the settlement named Gross, where he most industriously prosecuted his studies until he had secured a good English education, enabling him in turn to become a teacher. Afterward and before his marriage, he learned the carpenter's trade, and alternately labored at his trade and taught school, in Upper Canada and his own State.

On February 1st, 1830, he was married to Mrs. Eunice Sheldon, (late Eunice Brown), widow of Corydon Sheldon, deceased. With his wife and her infant son, Jarius, now Hon. J. C. Sheldon, of Urbana, Illinois, he continued to reside on a small tract near his father's, until the spring of 1833, when in May of that year, with his family of three children, and his younger brother, Layton, and family, enticed by the tales of the fertile lands of Northern Ohio, and his own observations taken in a flying visit in the preceding year, he started for the Fire Lands.

At that time but few steamers plied on Lake Erie. Availing themselves of one of them, the families of the two brothers were soon landed at the village of Huron, after a short stop with an older brother, who had a few years before settled in Rockport, near Cleveland.

Without having any particular land in view as future homes, teams were procured to move the families and their effects into the interior. Two days hard labor brought them to the residence of Charles Hill, about one mile west of the center of Wakeman, where a temporary rest was taken to allow time to make selection of a future home from the many tracts then in market, lying in the towns contiguous to Wakeman.

Two weeks of "looking land" determined them in favor of a tract at the center of Clarksfield, and a verbal purchase was made. The passage of that road of terrible memory, known as Wakeman woods, was accomplished, and the trackless forest to be their future home was entered across the farm of Benajoh Furlong, east of "Clarksfield Hollow." Two or three miles of road made by their own axes through the woods, brought them to the Center, where a cabin had been erected a year or two previous by Truman Percy, an emigrant from Trumbull county, and then occupied by him and his family. We arrived in Clarksfield June 8th, 1833. Here was to be our future home, where not a tree had been cut and no preparation made for a habitation. The writer, then a child of two and one-half years, well remembers the kindness of that good family in admitting us to a home in their over crowded cabin. A terrible fatality has followed this family, for now the third son, Asa, the youngest son, Perry, and the youngest daughter, Sally, are the only survivors.

Six weeks saw the body of a cabin erected upon our land, and with no doors, no windows, and only a roof of elm bark, peeled from the fallen trunk of a tree near at hand, we "moved in." Our house was also during that summer without a chimney or other conveniences for cooking inside. The roots of a large maple stump, standing contiguous to the house door was the fireplace for several months, and over it our meals were prepared. As the house was being raised, one log upon another, the neighbors "scored" the inside of each log, and my father subsequently hewed the logs thus prepared and in place, with his broad-ax, so that the inside of our house, when properly chinked, was quite presentable. My parents moved their little family of three children in, and with thankful hearts and big hopes for the future, set about their life's work.

This house having been made comfortable by a permanent roof, doors and windows and occasional "daubings," was our home, with the exception of a temporary residence of two years at the "Hollow," until April 18th, 1848.

The land was purchased of Francis S. Hawkers, of New York City, through his agent, Ezra Wildman, Esq., and was known as lot No. 21 and parts of lots Nos. 22 and 16, of the second section of Clarksfield, as surveyed by Comfort Hoyt, Esq. The consideration was at the rate of $2.00 per acre, and amounted to $414.75, of which $90.00 was paid on the delivery of the deed, $108.75 to be paid October 1st, 1834, $108.00 October 1st, 1835, and $108.00 October 1st, 1836, the deferred payments to be secured by mortgage on the premises. The deed, mortgages and notes, all ancient papers, are preserved as relics by the writer, and as memorials of the long continued and almost unsuccessful struggles of my father to secure an unencumbered home for his family. With the best industry and economy at his command, he was unable to cancel this mortgage until June 14th, 1852, almost nineteen years after its expiration. This, however, was no uncommon thing for those times, and had the proprietors of the Fire Lands been as pitiless as some of the "land sharks" of to-day, much more suffering would have been experienced.

At that time the first section of the town was without a settler; the second section, with the exception of the Rowlands and Ezra Wood and a few others, was also uninhabited; the third containing the village known as the "Hollow," had most of the population, and the fourth section was considerably settled. Simeon Hoyt, who has been noticed in the columns of the PIONEER, is well remembered by the writer as one of the settlers then living in the fourth section. David Lee, Sherman and Major Smith were likewise living upon that section. Frame houses and barns were even then very scarce in the town, and where now are the comfortable dwellings and ample barns of the well-to-do farmers, nothing could then be seen but the unbroken forests or the rude cabin. Deer roved in abundance in the woods, and the wolves made night melodious with their howling. Bears were also found in the neighborhood, but not abundant. The smaller animals of the forest were very plentiful.

There were then two school houses in the town—one at the "Hollow" and one two miles east, known as the red schoolhouse then and for many years thereafter. The only roads in the town that were, prior to that time, cut out and worked at all, were those crossing at the "Hollow." These were, at any season, of a very indifferent character, and for most of the year almost impassable. The writer remembers accompanying his parents to Norwalk in the early part of the year 1836, and becoming mired down and detained over night in the Townsend woods, now as good a road as can be found in the county. Our load in a two horse wagon would not have weighed over 300 pounds.

At that time the village of Huron afforded the only market for surplus produce, and if there had been any to dispose of the transportion over the twenty-five intervening miles would have been attended with more expense than the transportation of a like bulk over half the continent at the present. The only money in circulation in the country then was that brought by new settlers and paid out for their immediate necessities; while many came empty handed and depended upon their labor for their supplies. It was consequently very difficult to pay even the light tax assessments of that day. The pennies, six-pences and shillings that came into the family during the year were all carefully hoarded up to meet the demands of the tax-gatherer and to pay "quarterage," which, in the eyes of my parents, was equally an obligation.

From the positions of plenty, if not affluence, from which the men of that day now look back upon those times, it seems almost strange how we managed to get a

living; yet the same Providence which has always guarded the infant settlements of our country protected this, and taught the pioneers how to supply his wants from the scanty resources around him, and at the same time drive back the wilderness.

The "bloody murrain" was then and for many years very fatal to the few cattle owned by the settlers. It several times took our only cow, and more than once broke up the team by calling upon old "Buck" or "Bright" to lay down his life.

Wild hogs roamed in the forest, and the writer remembers of the exciting hunts of the settlers for these creatures.

Our nearest neighbors were the family of our good friends, the Percys, on the west; the family of Milton Bissel on the east, and Rawson and David Day, then unmarried men, on the north-east.

There were then no meeting-houses in the town, nor for many miles in either direction; but the devout and earnest Christians of the settlements did not permit the spark of godliness to die out or to lay dormant on that account. A Congregational church had been organized several years previously by Captain Samuel Husted and his associates, and was then minestered to by Rev. Mr. Betts, distinctly remembered by the writer. About this time a Methodist class was organized, composed of Abraham Gray, wife and some of his family, Mrs. Nancy Nickerson, my parents, and a few others. The settlement was regularly visited by circuit preachers, among whom the writer remembers the names of Gurley, Barkdull, Kellam, Mitchell, MacMahon, Goshorn, and others. The houses, cabins, barns, and the leafy forest of the settlement offered the church accommodations; and the right bias having been given to society by those who early laid its foundation, the town grew up remarkable for the sobriety and high religious character of its people. Sabbath breaking was early witnessed, and the people early took a strong position in favor of the current temperance reform. The human chattel found plenty of his friends in Clarksfield, many of whom kept stations on the "underground railroad," and were ever ready and willing to extend the facilities of that corporation to the panting and hunted passenger.

In 1837 the Congregationalists and in 1838 the Methodists erected small meeting houses at the "Hollow," which houses still stand; and, after a third of a century, witness weekly gatherings of the people, although most of those who suffered and sacrificed for their erection have, one by one, passed from their portals to the grave.

The old mill of Captain Husted then stood in the west part of the village, but was superceded soon after by the new mill erected by Lawton & Squires, in 1838, and still standing.

From this condition of things in 1833 the town prospered rapidly. Emigrants arrived and new settlements were opened. Hard work and economy was the lot of all. There was then, as now, no "royal road" to success. Perfect equality prevailed among the settlers, so far as earthly possessions were concerned; the man of the large "clearing" condescending to treat as his equal him who had his cabin in the woods. Industry and economy won the contest against physical obstructions. Farms were cleared, houses and barns erected, roads were opened through the wilderness, and bridges were erected over the streams; orchards were planted and grown, school houses instituted, and the country gradually took upon itself a matured and permanent look. With these changes the young of the town grew to maturity and the active men and women waxed old.

The subject of this sketch continued to reside in Clarksfield until the hour of his

death, which occurred July 11th, 1866, at his residence, surrounded by his entire family, summoned from their distant homes to witness the sad event. He died, as he had lived, a firm believer in the religion of Jesus Christ, upheld to the last by his trust in it. He will long be remembered by his neighbors and co-workers for his constant readiness for good works and his prompt attention to his religious duties.

His wife, who had, during his married life, been his faithful and loving companion, survived him less than three years, dying at the residence of her daughter, Mrs. Olive M. Fisher, in Clarksfield, March 9th, 1869. Side by side they lie in the grave yard at the Methodist church at Clarksfield, in the midst of the scenes of their life's work, and surrounded by the graves of those in whose company they fought the battle of life. Within a few yards lie many of their pioneer friends and many whom for years they had met in the church and in the class room.

A married daughter, but none of the male members of the family now reside Clarksfield; so that of the once numerous family of the name, no one now remains to keep alive the recollection of the family name. In Clarksfield it only lives in the memory of friends and upon the white marble. So with all,

"Where once we dwelt our names are heard no more."

The names of families in our country of mutation soon perish from memory, but their lines of emigration may be traced by the inscriptions found in the cemeteries.

Although far removed from the friends and scenes of our youth, and although other homes and friends have been formed, yet we, the surviving members of the famile, will never cease to think of Clarksfield and Huron county as HOME. Sad yet dear are the memories of it.

URBANA, ILL., Aug. 1876.

DEATH OF A PIONEER—THE FIRST MARRIED IN RICHLAND COUNTY.

Died at his residence in Elmwood, Peoria county, Illinois, October 24, 1874, Jonathan Oldfield, aged eighty-six years, four months. Mr. Oldfield was born in Orange county, New York, June 7, 1788; came with his father to Chillicothe, Ohio, in 1803, and in March, 1808, in company with James and Thomas M'Cluer, came to the present site of Bellevue, cutting their own road through the dense forest from Fredericktown. James made his selection and started to Canton to "enter his land;" Jonathan and Thomas commenced clearing, and with the help of Indians erected a cabin, into which the M'Cluer family moved the following spring. This was the first break of the wilderness of Richland county. Andrew Coffinberry was the first Justice of the Peace in Richland county, and the first marriage solemnized by him was that of Jonathan Oldfield and Elizabeth M'Cluer, which took place February 11, 1812, and was the first marriage in the present bounds of said county. Soon after his marriage he moved into his "cabin," on the north-east quarter of section twenty-two, and resided in this vicinity until five or six years since, at which time he removed his last place of residence. Mr. Oldfield was a soldier, and did honorable service in the war of 1812, for which he since obtained a land warrant. After the decease of his first wife, which occurred August 4, 1824, Mr. Oldfield married Miss Nancy Fidler, who died November 5, 1839, after which he married Miss Esther Andrews, who survives him. By all of said wives he was the father of nineteen childrenn, ten of whom are still living, only one (Albert) in Richland county. He was one of the organizers of the first Methodist Episcopal church in this vicinity, was for many years a venerble class leader, and a zealous and con-

sistent member thereof to the end of life; his faith in the Christian religion at his final dissolution enabled him to say—and in his last words he did say—"*Welcome death!*"

THE FIRST STAGE COACH.

The following is from a communication of A. Beebe, jr., published in the Elyria *Democrat:*

The entire absence of mail facilities was keenly felt by the New England settlers in Northern Ohio, and the establishment of post routes through the wilderness was among their first efforts of a public nature. It was a great hardship to be separated from their friends, but when from want of mail facilities, there was no direct and certain mode of communicating with them by writing, it was still more keenly felt. But this inconvenience was not of a long duration. Through the efforts of those who had located at intervals along the ridges that border on the lake, a post route was established between Cleveland and Lower Sandusky, as it was then called (now Fremont), through Elyria, in 1818. It was first carried on horse-back, once a week, and after about a year, twice a week. Previous to this date, even as early as 1808, a mail was occasionally carried through the Reserve to the Maumee country, but I have only to notice the route through Elyria.

A post office was established in Elyria on the 23d of May, 1818, and Heman Ely was commissioned post master. He continued to hold the office under successive administrations, for fifteen years, being finally superceded by John S. Matson, on the first day of April, 1833. During his term of office, Edmund West, Norris O. Stow and Phineas Johnson, respectively acted as his assistants. During the first of Jackson,s administration, a strong effort was made to remove him and secure the appointment of one more in sympathy with the dominant party, but they did not succeed until the commencement of his second term. The amount of business done at this office, at this early day, can be judged by the fact that the quarterly balances due the government, after deducting the commissions due the post master, ranged between $2.41 and $8.28, for the first four years.

Mr. Silas Wolverton was the first regular mail contractor on this route, which extended from Cleveland to Lower Sandusky. He had carried the mail some time previous to obtaining the contract, but the first entry of payment being made to him as contractor is May 7th, 1821. The mail was first carried on horseback, but as the roads were improved wagons were used a part of the season.

About the year 1826, Ezra S. Adams and myself bought Mr. Wolverton's right to carry the mails, and at once put on more teams, making the mud fly quite lively. By our arrangement, I transported the mail between Cleveland and Elyria, and Mr. Adams carried it on the western end. After being in partnership for about one year, I purchased Mr. Adams' interest in the contract and took charge of the whole line. I proceeded to stock up the as road well as I could with the facilities at my command, and made three trips a week—up one day and down the next.

In the fall of 1827, I made a visit to Washington to secure a contract for the mails, taking with me letters of introduction from Elisha Whittlesey, Heman Ely, and others, to the Post Master General, John McLean, who was afterwards appointed one of the Judges of the United States Supreme Court. On my return I set about establishing a stage line between Cleveland and Lower Sandusky. My greatest difficulty was in getting across the Cuyahoga at Cleveland, as there was no mode of crossing except by the rickety old ferry. My starting point was from Spangler's tavern, and the time of leaving

was four o'clock each morning. After passing the frame house at the Taylor farm, as I think it was called, a little west of Cleveland, the road ran through the woods to Rocky River, which was very difficult to cross, owing to the banks. The route I selected was by the Hog's Back, and thence to Elyria on the ridge road.

I started the first stage coach that ever left Cleveland, as near as I can recollect, in the fall of 1827. It was a six passenger coach, which I afterwards changed to accommodate nine passengers, by putting in a middle seat. The first trip made by this coach through the settlements created greater interest than the appearance of the first railroad train nearly a quarter of a century later. It was regarded as a vast improvement, not only in carrying the mail, but in transporting passengers, and crowds gathered at various points along the route to see it pass.

Staging, in those days, was attended with great perplexities, especially as it was important to make time, and a little delay at different points made quite a derangement in the time of arrival at the terminus. Occasionally a serious delay occurred, one of which is perhaps worthy of note.

Mr. Calvin Giddings had dug a race way at Rocky River, to convey to water to his saw mill below, and this had to be forded, as well as the river. Soon after the flood of January, 1828, the stage, then driven by Sylvanus Smith, attempted to cross the race, but the water was so deep that the horses, coach and all, were swept down and out into the main stream. One of the horses, "Old Prince," as he was called, broke loose and swam ashore. The other three horses were drowned, but they floated up among the floodwood at an island below, and their harness were secured. The coach and buffalo robes floated down the river and out into the lake. The mails were taken from the coach before attempting to cross. John Wolverton, son of the old contractor, was also with the coach, and he assisted in taking the mail over the river to Mr. Blood's, where there was a team kept, and they were sent on without much delay.

The route followed by the stage, as required by contract with the Department, was from Cleveland, by Brooklyn, Rockport, Dover, North Ridgefield, Elyria, Amherst, Henrietta, Florence, Eldridge, Milan, Norwalk, Monroeville, Four Corners, Lyme, York X Roads, York, and Green Creek, to Lower Sandusky. I commenced running a daily line of four horse coaches, in 1831, and continued in the business up to 1842, when I sold out to Neil, Moore & Co.

NEEDHAM M. STANDART.

"Cleveland lost one of the noblest and best of her early citizens in the death of Needham M. Standart, Esq., which took place at the residence of his son, Henry Standart, Esq., of this city, yesterday morning."

The above we copy from the Cleveland *Leader* of December 4th, 1874. As Mr. Standart was once a prominent citizen of the Firelands, it seems proper that some facts of a local character should be referred to, for the information of our people here.

Mr. Standart was born in Oneida county, New York, in 1797, and had therefore reached his seventy-seventh year. He came to Ohio in 1818, and established himself in business in Huron; but subsequently removed to Milan, where for several years he was one of the most prominent merchants in this section of country. In 1824 he associated with him in his business, Mr. Daniel Hamilton, still residing in Milan, and afterward Mr. Thomas Hamilton, now of Toledo, both of them his brothers-in-law. The firm of Standart

& Hamilton was extensively known as one of the leading business houses in all this neighborhood. But Mr. Standart found this place too limited for his ambition, and the large business talent he had cultivated; and in 1836 removed to Cleveland, where his business capacities could have fuller scope, leaving the business in Milan in the hands of the junior partners.

After his removal to Cleveland, Mr. Standart at once took a high position as a business man, under the firm of G. Griffith & Co., afterward changed to Standart, Ingraham & Co. After retiring from that branch of business Mr. Standart engaged in packing beef and was, we believe, the pioneer in beef packing on the lakes for a British market, and it was his brand that gave credit to American beef in foreign parts. He also built a number of vessels, and to no one man, other than to N. M. Standart, are we on these lakes more indebted for our admirable specimens of water craft.

Amid all the trying ordeals that active business men have seen during the last forty years, in this western country, constantly changing, as have the currents of trade in the magic development of the land, Mr. Standart never lost heart, never lost courage. His energy and hope always buoyed him up, and not until physical infirmity laid its cruel hand upon that energy did we ever see any check to his hope or to his effort.

During the war the deceased knew no rest of mind or body in his exertions in behalf of the Union cause. He spent a great deal of his time "at the front," where "Standart's battery" was winning credit, and by constant word and deed did he show his love for the old flag.

Several years since, Mr. Standart was obliged, from the infirmities of age, to retire from business life, but not until he had established a high reputation as a business man, and the respect of a large circle of his acquaintances.

He was thrice married; his first wife was Miss Margaret Hamilton, his second Miss Naomi Wilber, and his third Mrs. Doty. He has five children who survive him: Capt. Wm. E. and Stephen H. Standart, of Toledo; G. Henry, of Cleveland; and Charles W., of New York; and Mrs. Maggie Wilgus, of Ithaca, New York. An only brother, Hon. Charles Standart, of Auburn, New York, also survives him.

The Cleveland *Leader* says of him: "Mr. Standart was one of those large hearted enterprising men, who was not only beloved by his immediate friends and relatives, but a blessing to the community in which he lived."

This was found true in several enterprises, which asked his aid when he was one of our citizens. The Presbyterian church, which was erected in 1834–5, owes much to his liberality, and the substantial aid which he furnished; and without which the enterprise must have been for a time at least a failure. On one occasion he said to Rev. Everton Judson, a prominent member of the building committee, "You go on and put up a large and commodious building, and I will subscribe $1,000, or about one-eighth of the whole expense." Under this liberal offer and large credits extended by the firm, the committee went forward, and the work was completed; and though it is forty years ago, it is as solid to-day in its foundation, and its walls as firm and substantial, as on the day of its completion, and is one of the best church edifices to be found in the country; it has also the largest congregation and the largest membership of any church in Northern Ohio, Cleveland and Toledo excepted.

REVEREND ENOCH CONGER.

BY REV. A. NEWTON, D. D.

Rev. Enoch Conger died at Carmi, Illinois, on the seventeenth of April 1875.

He was born at New Scotland, Albany county, New York, 1782. He was for a few months in the war of 1812, and had a part in the battle of Queenstown Heights, in which he was taken a prisoner. In the spring of 1812 he embraced the Christian hope, at a time when there was no revival in the place, and no minister in the church. To his mother, who was eminent for her piety and sound practical sense, he was indebted for valuable counsels and instructions which nourished and guided his christian life. His mind soon turned toward the ministry, and he immediately commenced studying at an academy in Auburn, intending to go through a regular course. But his eyes failing, he was obliged to suspend his studies through the winter. Spring finding him still under this affliction, he concluded that God had hedged up his way, and abandoned the hope of preaching. In March, 1814, he was married to Esther West, who still survives him with faculties of body and mind unimpaired. He took a farm and worked on it one year. His eyes having become well, he sold his farm, and again commenced his studies.

He studied theology with Rev. Joel T. Benedict and Rev. William R. Weeks, D. D., and was licensed in the spring of 1819 by the Union Congregational Association. Having been ordained, either by this body or the Presbytery of Susquehanna, he spent the first five years of his ministry in Chenango county, New York, and in Susquehanna county, Pennsylvania, where he was much encouraged in the success of his labors. But his active spirit looked to the "regions beyond," and in the fall of 1824 he removed to Ohio, and united with the Presbytery of Huron. Within the bounds of this body he performed his life's work most faithfully and successfully. Most of the churches had been recently organized, and were feeble, unable to sustain a minister alone. He, therefore, divided his labors between two or more contiguous ones, at first serving New Haven, Plymouth and Greenfield one year, Lyme, and Ridgefield as pastor nine years, and Lower Sandusky one year. In 1837, he took charge of the church in Plymouth, over which he was installed as pastor in 1842. After eleven years of service in this pastorate, he resigned his office, and labored one year among the feeble churches is Presbyterian Missionary. After a suspension of labor in consequence of ill health from 1849 to 1851, he resumed preaching and supplied the churches in Peru, Olena, Greenfield, Melmore and Bloom, until 1862, when failing health compelled him to give up preaching except occasionally. In 1868, he removed to Carmi, Illinois, where he lived with his son Chauncey S. Conger, until his death.

From the foregoing sketch, it will appear that he was a pioneer in the work of the Gosdel. The early history of many of the churches of the Presbytery is intimately associated with the name of Mr. Conger. His abundant labors in connection with Rev. E. Judson, a co-presbyter of kindred spirit, were blessed of God to the conversion of many. Though each had his own individual charge, with the consent of their people they both went out together among other churches and places, laboring several days in succession, doing the work of evangelists, and doing it much better than some who at that day went under this name.

Mr. Conger was more than an ordinary preacher; had he been favored with that broad and thorough education, which he sought in vain, he would have taken a high rank among his brethren anywhere. He had a clearness of perception—a soundness of judgment and a strength of the reasoning faculties which gave him great advantage in the investigation of a subject and great power in the presentation of it to others.

If it had not the grace and polish of the

schools, it had the power which commanded attention and awakened interest. He did not deal much in anecdotes or historical illustrations, or in allusions to passing events. He took the great truths of the Gospel, clothed them in plain Saxon English, and drove them home to the heart and conscience by that kind of eloquence which comes from a strong intellect, kindled by strong feelings. His illustrations and proof were drawn mainly from the scriptures. His manner reminded one forcibly of the Apostle's description of his own preaching: "And my speech and my preaching was not with enticing words of man's wisdom, but in demonstration of the Spirit and of power." Every hearer felt that he was listening to most solemn and weighty truths, and that the preacher felt them in his inmost soul. Even the nervous jerk of his head, and the high pitch of his voice when he was absorbed in his subject seemed to add to the impressiveness of his manner, as they were evidently the result of his intense earnestness.

Mr. Conger was a judicious counselor. He had that sound common sense and clear discernment which made him a valuable member of deliberative bodies—no mind was keener than his to penetrate the intricacies of a subject or detect the fallacies of a sophistical argument.

Although he was a Presbyterian by profession and intelligent preference, and loved his own denomination with true affection, he was not a bigot. He loved all true christians. He mingled freely with them, and co-operated with them in revivals and the efforts for the general good of society.

A marked feature of his character was his self-denying and self-sacrificing devotion to his work. The spirit which urged him to such efforts as he made to preach continued to move him through all his subsequent career. He was called to labor with new and feeble churches, and a growing family, needed increasing means of living. He was under the necessity of practicing a rigid economy. He might have turned aside and practiced some mechanical trade, for which he showed a special genius, or he might have bought up cheap land for cultivation, and thus laid a foundation for future competence, at least, if not for wealth. But he chose rather to deny himself and keep on in the path of ministerial duty. He did not entangle himself in the things of this world, while he could preach the gospel. His whole mind and heart were given to this divine work, though its pecuniary rewards to him were so small and so inadequate to his wants. This was so clearly a trait in his character that it impressed every one who knew him. It was one of the secrets of his power in preaching. His hearers felt that a man who denied himself so much for the gospel, must believe that it is a reality.

On the question of slavery, temperance, and other reforms, Mr. Conger took that position between a destructive radicalism and a dead conservatism which most healthy minds take. He believed in the sinfulness of slavery. He believed in the importance of temperance to the moral and physical well-being of men. But he did not think it necessary to move heaven and earth in order to secure a practical mode of action. When the great struggle between slavery and freedom culminated in the war of the rebellion, two of his sons went forth in that contest—one of them fell a victim to his patriotism by the hand of the enemy. Heavy as the blow was to his father's heart, no murmur was ever heard from his lips. Doubtless he acquiesced in it as the order of an All-wise Providence, nor is there any doubt that he regarded it as one of the inevitable consequences of our great national sin, which could be expiated only by such sacrifices.

Mr. Conger was greatly respected and

beloved by the Presbytery. Three times he was sent as Commissioner to the General Assembly. His counsels had great weight in the deliberations of both Presbytery and Synod.

Of the ministers' meeting he was a valued member, and his presence was always welcome. The Presbytery of Huron showed its appreciation of his labors and its estimate of his worth, by raising a fund of $2,000 some sixteen years ago, the interest of which was to be given to him during life, and afterward to any disabled minister of the Presbytery. This is appropriately called the "Conger Fund." It was given by loving hearts by members in the different churches. No contribution to any benevolent object was ever made more freely. This affection was reciprocated by Mr. Conger. He loved the Presbytery, and hoped to spend his last days within its bounds, amid the churches where he had so long and so faithfully labored. But that Providence "whose ways are not our ways," ordered it otherwise. He removed to Illinois to be with his sons, and there, surrounded by loving children, who made every provision for his wants, he yet cast many a longing look toward his former home in Ohio, and talked of making a journey thither to visit his old friends, until disease made it more and more certain that he could never accomplish his desire. His mental faculties had been impaired, especially his memory. Says the Rev. B. C. Swan, pastor of the church at Carmi: "Of the past, his work, his former friends, and his various associates, he could give no connected account. But speak to him of the blessed Saviour's work, the ground of his own hope, or his prospects, and all was light. After service, I would frequently call on him to make the closing prayer. As he would slowly and evidently with great effort rise to his feet and appear scaacely able to stand when he had risen, the scene became truly affecting and solemn. And often in his prayers there was evidently a full comprehension of the subject—a practical application of its points and a continuation of its suggestions, adding things spiritual and mature, which to those aware of his infirmities displayed a marked vivacity and clearness, and sometimes such brilliant views of truth as were truly wonderful. I have never known such an illustration of the Apostle's words as his case affords: "Though our outward man perish, yet the inward man is renewed day by day.'"

Nothing peculiar marked the closing scene. He walked about the house and down stairs the day before he died, only seeming a little more tired, and went to rest a little earlier than usual. He slept quietly for the first hour or two; but afterwards a loud, hollow breathing commenced. Mrs. Conger sprang out of bed and found he was almost gone. In about ten minutes, without a struggle, he ceased to breathe.

STEPHEN AND EMELINE ROBINSON, OF GREENFIELD.

Stephen Robinson died in Greenfield, Huron county, Ohio, on Monday, the 13th of December, 1875. Aged eighty years and seven months.

He was born May 13th, 1795, in Berne township, Albany county, New York, and at the age of eleven years he went to Camillus, Onondaga county. In October, 1819, he left Camillus with his brother Reuben, and arrived at Sandusky, Erie county, Ohio, on the 14th of December. The next day they went to Greenfield with a man named Levi Savage, who subsequently married his wife's sister. He had brought by Lakes Ontario and Erie, to Sandusky, a supply of about one hundred and thirty barrels of salt from the Onondaga works. On Christmas day he sold one hundred barrels of this to Schuy-

ler Van Ransaeller and Farewell, merchants in Monroeville, at five dollars per barrel, and part of the rest he sold in other places at ten dollars per barrel. Farewell was then Sheriff of the county. In February following, he walked back to Onondaga alone. Reuben stayed until July and then came back by water to Buffalo. In 1822 Stephen came back to settle for salt which he had shipped to Ohio, stayed about six weeks and returned to Onondaga. The canal was not then open. In 1820 it was open to Utica from Onondaga, but not to Lockport for several years. In December, 1824, he came and married Emeline Haynes, daughter Nathaniel Haynes, February 10th, 1825, and went back in April, taking her with him. Their route was by schooner from Sandusky to Buffalo, thence by wagon to Lockport, and from that point by canal to Onondaga. The canal was then open from Lockport to Utica.

He remained three years and then returned to Ohio with his family, in 1828, by canal and lake to Sandusky. In April of that year, they were brought from Sandusky to Greenfield by John West, in his wagon. Then Robinson moved into a log house, in which he continued to reside until his death, on the same farm, for nearly forty-eight years. He bought the land of his father-in-law, Mr. Haynes. The house was by the main road from Sandusky to Mansfield, and he sometimes saw as many as a hundred wagons pass in a day, drawing wheat to Sandusky, before the railroad was constructed.

He was an honest, industrious citizen, and reared a large family to useful lives. Several times he was chosen by his neighbors to local offices.

There is one incident in the life of his widow which is worthy of record, as illustrating the perils which often surrounded the homes of the pioneers. When young and living with her father, in Greenfield, she went to a neighbor's to borrow a flax hatchel. Returning in the dusk of the evening, along the road which was skirted by a ravine, she heard, in the path below, the steps of some animal. She noticed that when she stopped the steps ceased, and when she advanced, they were again heard. She was near where she knew the road would descend to a point at which it would be crossed by the path. She turned from the road, leaped a fence, and ran across a plowed field, throwing away the hatchel to aid her in her flight to a fire of brush and logs in her father's woods, which she saw burning. Jumping over a second fence, she rushed to the fire, and turning round saw the eyes a great wolf, glaring at her through the fence, within a few rods, so closely had she been pursued. Taking a large firebrand from the fire and waving it about her, she made her escape to the house. Her father went with his gun in quest of the animal but failed to find it.

The next morning he found the hatchel and her footprints, with the wolf tracks by them, and noticed that her steps over the plowed field were remarkably far apart. Fear had almost given her wings.

She yet occupies the primitive dwelling where she and her husband lived so long, honored by her family and esteemed by the community for her virtues and good works.

PERSONAL REMINISCENCES OF REV. H. O. SHELDON.

I was born in Hartford county, Connecticut, September 15th, 1799. My father moved to Milton, afterward called Genoa, Cayuga county, New York, in the spring after I was one year old, where I received the benefit of the then common school education. At the age of sixteen my father gave me my time. I taught school nine months in one district and twelve months in another; then came west in May, 1818. I first visited the site of

Norwalk in August of that year. The county seat had been recently located on the "Sand Ridge." Platt Benedict was then engaged in getting out timber for the Court House, which was the second building erected where Norwalk now stands. Mr. Benedict's dwelling house was the first, In exploring, I visited Lower Sandusky. The pickets of Ft Stevenson were standing, riddled with the bullets of the British and Indians, when defended by the brave Colonel Croghan. At Portland, formerly Ogontz Place, I met Isaac Mills with a map in his hand of "Sandusky City," recently laid out. This place and Venice were rival towns. Inquiring about the health : "Oh, it is healthy here, but sickly at Venice." Inquiring there, the answere was : "It is healthy here, but at Ogontz Place even the fishes have the ague." On board the "Walk in the Water," the first steamboat on Lake Erie, an Indian expressed himself thus : "Humph ! Big Canoe !"

I returned to my father in Genoa by way of Cleveland, which then had no house on the west side of the river or on the hill on the east side. I returned to Ohio in the spring. Coming on board the steamboat at Black Rock were fourteen yoke of oxen and two span of horses, which, with all steam, enabled the boat to make but slow progress to Buffalo. I commenced farming on the east side of Peru, on the land my father gave me, June 9th, 1819, upon strictly temperance principles. My neighbor expostulated with me : "You cannot raise your cabin nor get your grain harvested without whisky.". "Then the logs shall remain on the ground and the harvest ungathered." But the cabin was raised; the ridge pole went on without a drop of whisky to wet it. But one man refused to come to the raising because there was no whisky, and that man died intemperate. Save once, when from timidness or courtesy I tasted a "colt-tail" at Albany, I have never used a drop as a beverage since.

In 1820 I moved to my farm, and labored to promote peace, temperance and morality. Until I raised grain I bought flour at Sandusky, at two dollars a barrel. A Presbyterian Society, upon the accommodation plan, was formed, trustees appointed, and I was chosen secretary or clerk. The church members employed Rev. James McIntyre, a local Methodist preacher, to preach for them. Meetings were held in my house. I objected to employing a Methodist, and accused the church of parsimony, because they could have him for a small amount of grain, and to pay a minister of our own denomination would require half salary in cash.

I drew a plan and subscription for a meeting house to be built of hewed logs, and one evening, after Rev. Lott B. Sullivan had preached, I presented them. The church members were all better off than I—not a member. They all refused to sign until I did, and then no subscription exceeded mine—ten dollars—payable in work. It was built. I wrote to the Domestic Missionary Society for a pastor. Rev. Mr. Lathrop was eventually sent, but on his way, finding a revival at Elyria, he tarried there, and did not finally reach his destination. It the meantime Mr. McIntyre joined the annual conference, and with Rev. True Pattee was sent to Huron circuit. As before, he now made my house his stopping place. I had perused Spring's Sermon on Election; it was my fortress. He attacked my doctrine. I disputed my ground inch by inch, until at two o'clock in the morning my foundation gave way. I built it up before he came round, and he took it away in less time than before. I rebuilt it, and it fell; until, discovering that mankind were by the atonement placed under the dispensation of the Holy Spirit, by which I was led to surrender, on December 7th, 1823, I experienced a change of

heart. A revival followed, and twenty-one heads of families in three weeks professed conversion, most of whom united with the M. E. Church.

In 1824 I was drawn as a grand juror. Henry Buckingham was foreman; I was clerk or secretary. There were indictments found against hog thieves, but none against gamblers, though the court charged specially and some of the jury reported the actual sight of criminals playing "cards at a tavern." But the prosecuting attorney and the sheriff were gamblers. The latter had selected Forsyth and Shirley and two other gamblers as talesmen, and notwithstanding the most positive testimony we could get but eleven votes for a bill. We sat through the week. The landlord brought in his bill: "Half a thousand shingles whittled up." When we went to the tavern to settle our bills the bar-room was full of people. When I put my hand in for my pocket-book I felt a pack of cards. I began to pull them out and scatter them on the floor, saying, "I did not intend to expose the grand jury so publicly." Adams, the constable, rushed for and gathered them up; I then threw the remainder in the fire. My remark and act spoiled their expected fun; they doubtless intended to propose that some of the jury be searched.

The next day was Sabbath. Father Gurley preached at my house, to whom I related the occurrence. When going home the next day he was overtaken by Dr. Tilden, who inquired with great concern, "Mr. Gurley, do you allow your members to play cards?" "Why?" "Mr. Sheldon was found to have a pack of cards in his pocket." Mr. Gurley immediately replied in his broad Irish, "An' was it ye, doctor, that put them in?"

After this I felt a strong impression that I would be called to preach, which I as strongly resisted, having determinined to be a farmer for life. Finding the impression troubling me the more I enjoyed religion, I prayed regularly that it might be taken away. Finally, when engaged in prayer, these words seemed inwardly spoken to me: "You have a set of talents different from every other person in the world. The Lord makes use of different instruments in building up His Kingdom. If He calls you and you go, He will make you the instrument in the conversion of some one soul who would not otherwise be brought into the Kingdom. But if you don't go you will lose your religion and your soul, and He will call some one else to the work." I replied: "Lord, it is enough. If I can be the instrument in the salvation of *one* soul, I'll go it thou shalt call me by Thy Spirit and open my way by Thy Providence." This was at my morning devotions. An hour or two after, Job T. Reynolds called and said, "Brother Sheldon, there is a new settlement up in Fairfield and they have no meetings. Suppose you go and hold meetings." I replied: "The disciples went two by two; if you'll go with me I will go." That day, at Mack's mill, I met a man from Fairfield, of whom I inquired, "Have you any meetings at Fairfield?" "No, sir." "Have you any place to hold them?" "We have a school-house covered, the puncheon floor laid, but not chinked or daubed." Tell the people that Brother Reynolds and I will come and hold meetings." The fourth time an awakening was manifest; a revival followed! I was then requested to go to the Heathen settlement, afterwards called Enterprise. There, under an exhortation, I heard for the first time in my life a person scream aloud and cry for mercy. The next summer, June 17, 1825, I was licensed to preach and recommended to the Ohio Annual Conference. I have now entered the fifty-first year of my ministry.

In 1832 I was stationed in Norwalk circuit. In traveling I had used up my stock and farming tools and rents; I now sold my farm to obtain the money to

finish the parsonage and meeting house which had been begun. I applied to and obtained from the Trustees of Norwalk Academy a transfer of the academy and four lots (with the debt against it for real estate) to the Conference. A new charter, under the name of Norwalk Seminary, was obtained, giving the Conference the appointing of two-thirds of the trustees. At the suggestion of Judge Lane, Jonathan Edward Chaplin was elected principal. He was great grandson to the celebrated Jonathan Edwards; from whom it was said a vein of genius descended to the remotest branches. He had been an eminent lawyer, but had become skeptical and very intemperate. But at a watch night he sought pardon and grace to stand; he became a true Christian and a useful man; he accepted the charge and conducted the seminary with honor to himself and credit to the institution. This was the first literary institution uuder the patronage of the M. E. Church in Ohio. During its existance it spread and increased a thirst for knowledge, and educated and developed talent in many, among whom were John Wheeler, the late useful President of Baldwin University, now President of a growing college in the Northwest; Thomas Barkdull and George W. Breckenridge, both useful preachers and presiding elders in their conferences; William L. Harris, who, after supporting himself by sawing wood and ringing the bell at Norwalk Seminary, became successively a useful traveling preacher, a professor in Baldwin Institute, professor in the Ohio Wesleyan University, secretary of the General Conference, assistant secretary of the Missionary Society of the M. E. Church, and is now a prominent Bishop, in which capacity he has traveled around the globe. Norwalk Seminary educated many others, any one of the four named having been worth more to the church than all the cost of the seminary. Thomas Barkdull more than paid his board and tuition by repairing watches. I acted as agent, obtained subscriptions while on the district, and then agent for two years in the East, obtained $5,000 in subcriptions, and collecting books for the library, philosophical apparatus, with many curiosities for a museum. When the building was burned, and most of the library, apparatus and curiosities were destroyed, the trustees were offered $1,000 for the remainder of what was collected by the agent.

Upon the question of rebuilding, the trustees were divided. Platt Benedict offered to give eight acres of land in the meadow southwest of town. Obediah Jenney offered to build a bridge and walk to it, and the agent earnestly advocated locating on the proposed site. His argument was that four acres could be used and four sold in lots, which would do much towards a new building, in which case the seminary would grow to a contemplated college. The old site, which was in the dusty and central part of the town, could be sold for the indebtedness, which was about $3,000. But the richest man in the Board, who had property in the vicinity of the old site, urged its adoption, and the majority voted with him. I resigned as agent and president of the Board of Trustees, predicting disaster and ultimate defeat.

An agent was appointed, opposed by the late agent in the Annual Conference as deficient in financial talent, who did not collect, from subscriptions obtained by himself and his predecessor, sufficient to pay his salary, the deficiency of which was made up by the sale of books collected by his predecessor. Other books were sold to pay the deficiency of the principal's salary, one of which, an illustrated Bible printed in 1518, now three hundred and fifty-seven years old, I bought from the widow of the principal, to whom it had been sold. The seminary was rebuilt. A mortgage had somehow

been put on the property, unknown to but few. The Conference declined to relieve it. The seminary and church property were sold at auction. I lost only $150; but the two contractors, who had invested their all in the new building, were made bankrupt. The Conference established a seminary at Berea, which grew to a university.

James McIntyre, of whom I have spoken, was *sui generis.* He had a tall frame, without much flesh, loosely hung together; a boy described him as a limsey man." He dressed in coarse, cheap home-made clothing, illy fitting his person. He had a high forehead, cadaverous cheek, and remarkably bright blue eyes. His voice was low and effeminate. He clothed his ideas in original language. His illustrations were appropriate, drawn from well known objects. His logic was irresistable. He would sometimes go to his appointments in summer without shoes and stockings, his trousers reaching scarcely below where the calf of the leg ought to be. He was in his element when exposing the absurdities of Calvinism and Universalism. Strangers, after they had heard him, pronounced him in backwoods language "a singed cat."

McIntyre has gone. Platt Benedict, Nathan Sutiff, Simon Ammerman, —— Hagaman, John D. Hoskins, Daniel Brightman, David Underhill, Moses C. Sanders, Elihu Clary, Thomas Tilson, Daniel Made, Major Guthrie, R. S. Southgate, and most of the others who were early settlers have gone—gone—gone. I am becoming a stranger amidst a new generation of men. Soon it will be said of me, "he, too, is gone." May we all so walk the narrow road of piety, which has a pilot and safe crossing at the end, that we may all meet where "we shall see as we are seen and know as we are known."

ALMOST A CENTENARIAN.

Elizabeth Trimmer died at the residence of her son, Isaac Trimmer, in Townsend, Huron county, Ohio, on the 18th of January, 1876, aged ninety-nine years, six months, and fourteen days. The following personal sketch of this venerable pioneer lady was written by Miss Jane O. DeForest, October 27, 1875, for the Cleveland *Leader*:

In view of the increasing interest with which the people of Ohio are regarding the preparations for the great international exhibition of 1876, I send you a short sketch of a valuable "relic" in this vicinity. In the township of Townsend, Huron county, an old lady resides, who was born on the very day on which was signed the "Immortal Declaration," and it is quite probable that she is the only native of this country, now living, whose birth coincides with that of the nation.

I first heard of this venerable woman more than a year ago, and last summer, a few weeks before she was ninety-nine, I went to her home to see and converse with her. The old lady was in her chamber on my arrival, but a little great-granddaughter was sent to call her down, and she came forward with as much ease as might have been expected of a person twenty-five years younger. During my conversation with herself and son I learned the following facts concerning her: Mrs. Elizabeth Trimmer was born July 4th, 1776, in Washington township, Morris county, New Jersey, about sixty miles from Philadelphia. Her maiden name was Shangler, and she belonged to a family of eleven children, ten daughters and one son, and is the sole survivor of this large household. Her maternal grandfather lived to the age of 110, and her mother died at the age of 100. Others of her relatives lived to be very old, though none attained such remarkable ages. Mrs. Trimmer has had four children, one daughter and three sons. The sons are still living, and she now resides with the eldest of them, who is now in his sixty-

eighth year. From New Jersey she moved to Cayuga county, New York, and from thence to Alleghany county, in the same State. For the past fourteen years she has been a resident of Huron county, Ohio. She is rather below the medium height, but does not bend much under her weight of years. She has partially lost her eyesight, and is quite deaf, though it is not at all difficult to converse with her if one sits near and speaks in a moderately loud tone.

She seems to retain her faculties in a remarkable degree, and talked freely about her young days, "when there was no machinery and all the work had to be done by hand." Her father's large family, being composed of girls, with but one exception, some of them were obliged to assist in the out-door work, and Mrs. Trimmer remarked that she had raked and bound grain many a day and kept up with the cradles. The venerable lady said that it was not desirable to live to such an advanced age, yet she seemed comfortable and cheerful. Her son said she had a splendid appetite and wished hearty food at every meal. She reads in her own books and often walks out and visits her neighbors. I am informed that on Monday, July 5th, the next day after attaining the age of ninety-nine, she walked to the house of a neighbor nearly half a mile away, made her visit, and walked back again.

Mrs. Trimmer is of German descent, though her parents were natives of this country. She is anxious to attend the Centennial next year, and if she lives and retains her present vigor, the Ohio Centennial Committee will doubtless secure her presence as a most interesting Centennial relic.

CAPTAIN JOSIAH PELTON.

The Amherst *Free Press* gives the following account of this pioneer of Vermillion.

Captain Josiah Pelton came to Vermillion in 1818. Mr. Pelton was born in Chatham, Connecticut in 1772, and was married to Lucy Sheppard in 1793. He and his brother owned a ship, of which he was captain, trading at the West Indies and other ports. During some of the wars in the early part of the present century his ship was taken by the Spaniards to Rio Janeiro and he was kept in prison for two or three years. After losing his ship and money and enduring many hardships, he finally reached his home.

In June, 1815, he started in company with two or three other families for Ohio. In passing through some place in the State of New York, on the Fourth of July, he hoisted a large flag over his wagon, which called a great crowd. One of the hotel keepers obtained possession of this prize and in a short time it was waving from the top of the hotel, and the company was nicely provided for, for the day. At Buffalo the wagons and goods were put aboard a small vessel and brought to Fairport. During the voyage which was very rough, Captain Pelton was obliged to assume command of the craft, in order to reach port in safety. The captain proper was glad to have him do so, and the entire crew were very willing to obey him. They arrived at Fairport some time before the cattle and horses, which had been driven overland via a rough and broken path. The party arrived at Euclid in August where nearly all the family were taken sick, and Mrs. Pelton died five or six weeks after the arrival at Euclid.

In 1818 Captain Pelton sold his place and removed to Vermillion, and bought a farm of John Sharart, now known as the Darby farm, where he lived fourteen or fifteen years. The family consisted of nine children. The eldest, Lucy, married William Treat, of Euclid; she is now dead; Phebe, widow of Anson Cooper, of

Brownhelm; Josiah S; Allen; Charlotte, wife of Levi Parsons,—died in 1834; S. Augustin; Austin; Juliania, wife of John Miller, died in 1832; and Franklin. The children all married, and all settled in Vermillion excepting Lucy and Phebe. Austin has lately sold his farm and is now living near Webb's corners. Four brothers are still living in Vermillion.

Captain Pelton was of a lively disposition, liked a good joke and could tell a capital story. He died in July, 1834, at the age of sixty-two years, having not yet reached his three score and ten, the time alloted for man to live.

HARVEY FOWLER, OF MARGARETTA.

The subject of this sketch was born in Westfield, Massachusetts, March 7, 1797, and lived there until nineteen years of age. He received the ordinary common school education of farmer's sons in those days and one winter's attendance at the State academy in the village. In February, 1816, he, in company with his brother-in-law, Raynol Knox, and one other, left their native village for Ohio in a one-horse cutter, but were compelled to perform most of the journey on foot as their baggage was a sufficient load for the horse. While in the Genesee country a sudden thaw took off the snow, which obliged them to change their cutter for a wagon and they finished their journey in this manner reaching their destination, Painesville, Lake county, in about thirty days from the time they left home. Their object in stopping at that point was to locate and occupy lands which they had received a title for from the Connecticut Reserve. The location not meeting with his expectations and requirements for a home, he sold his title for land in that vicinity and in 1818 came on west to Margaretta, where his uncles, Richard and Major Fred. Falley then, and had for some nine or ten years previous resided. Having satisfied himself as to location and quality of land, he purchased of Messrs. Jessup and Wakeman, of Hartford, Connecticut, the tract of land where he has since resided, a period of fifty-seven years. Erie county (then Huron) was just beginning to be settled up, and the inhabitants could be numbered by scores rather than hundreds at the time he first settled here. The work of clearing up and subduing a farm was long and arduous, nevertheless he undertook and accomplished it, trusting to the future development of the country for his reward, which in his case has been abundant.

In the early history of the county he was prominently identified and the esteem in which he was held by his fellow citizens can be judged by the following commission and appointment to public offices of trust. In May, 1820, he was elected and commissioned Lieutenant of the Eighth Company, Second Regiment, Fourth Brigade and Fourth Division Ohio State Militia; was promoted to Captain in the following September, and served in that capacity until, by act of Legislature, the company became dissatisfied and he, disgusted with the duties and requirements imposed upon them by that body, resigned. In 1824, he was elected Justice of the Peace for three years and re-elected in 1827. Commissions for the above named positions are now among his papers; the first two by Governor Ethan Allan Brown, the third by Governor Morrow, the fourth by Governor Allen Trimble. The documents mentioned are interesting relics of the pioneer times of the State; the paper, printing, seal and style of language are peculiar and bear date within the first half century of the life of the Republic. in the spring of 1838 he was elected by the Legislature and commissioned by Governor Joseph Vance as Associate Judge of Erie county, to serve for the

term of seven years. It is the opinion of the writer that he was the first Judge of Erie county, after it was set off from Huron. March, 1846, he was appointed Commissioner by the Associate Judges, M. Farwell, J. W. Brooks, and Charles Standart, to fill a vacancy caused by the resignation of Bourdette Wood, was elected in the fall for two years and re-elected in 1848. October, 1853, he was elected member of the House of Representatives in the State Legislature.

The deceased was a member of the Fire Lands Historical Society from its organization and has always been an active member, attending the meetings when possible. He collected the facts for, and wrote a history of Margaretta township for the PIONEER which the publisher told him was the most complete and perfect of any that had been contributed.

At the time of his first living in Margaretta there was a Baptist church, of which his uncle, Richard Falley, was deacon and foremost member, whom he used to assist in singing and reading sermons. Thus these two being almost alone in sustaining public religious meetings, were encouraged in their work by the faithful attendance and help of a few religious women. In the year 1835, by the assistance of Rev. Hiram Smith, the first Congregational church was formed at his house, he being one of its first members and chosen one of its first deacons. When the church purchased the new house he was chosen and continued to be one of its trustees.

In February, 1821, Mr. Fowler was married to Sophronia Hill, of Blanford, Hamden county, Massachusetts, at Perry, Geauga county, Ohio, and by her had six children, the first a son, who died in infancy. September 21, 1836, his wife died, and during the six weeks preceding that date, he had lost two daughters and one son, aged ten, seven and five years respectively. His first daughter, Margaret, wife of B. V. Boice, died July 9, 1850, aged twenty-six years, who left one child, a son, now living with his father in Townsend, Sandusky county; his sixth child is the wife of your well known former townsman, J. S. Eck, now of Toledo. September 25, 1838, he took for his second wife, Ellen Hubbard, of Fort Miller, Washington county, New York, and was married at that place. She still survives him; by this marriage he had three children, the first a daughter, who died in infancy; one son, at present living on his farm; the third child, Mabel Elizabeth, died in May, 1867, aged twenty years.

Judge Fowler died at his residence, in Margaretta, February 18, 1875, aged seventy-seven years and eleven months, of dropsy of the heart, after an illness of fourteen months.

OBITUARY RECORD.

THOMAS HAMILTON, SR., died at the Oliver House, in Toledo, September 16, 1876, at the age of sixty-six years and four months.

The Toledo *Blade* says: He was the son of James Hamilton, and was born in Granville, Washington county, New York, May 2, 1810. At the age of ten years he went to Buffalo, as a clerk with his brother Henry, where he remained until 1832, when he removed to Milan, Ohio; and, in connection with his brother Daniel and N. M. Standart, a brother-in-law, he became a member of the firm of Standart, Hamilton & Co., where he remained until his removal to Toledo in 1861. The firm referred to was for several years the most prominent in mercantile and associated operations of any in Northern Ohio west of Cleveland, and by its great energy, enterprise and liberality, contributed largely, not only to the growth of Milan, but to the development of the country for a great distance about there. In all local improvements and especially the construction of the Milan Canal, the Messrs. Hamilton, (Mr. Standart having in 1835 removed to Cleveland,) were most prominent in the contribution of means and other aid. Their mercantile business was extensive, while they dealt largely in real estate. The memorable financial crash of 1837 proved too much for them, compelling them to suspend their operations, which, unfortunately for the community as for them, were never revived. Hopeful of success, they struggled for many years in the vain hope of saving from the wreck of their large business enough to pay their creditors. During the past thirty years Mr. Hamilton has devoted his attention chiefly to commercial traffic, with varying success, ten years of which time was spent in Toledo. He was a bold and confident dealer, usually basing his operations upon his own judgment.

Of Thomas Hamilton, it may truly be said, that he was "an honest man," the highest honor to be paid to human character. His life is a living attestation to the truth of the declaration that "a good name is to be chosen rather than great riches, and loving favor rather than silver or gold." It is the uniform testimony of those who have known him well for over forty years, that in all that time covering periods of great financial embarrassments and trial, that in all that experience his integrity was never called in question, nor a shadow fell upon his name. Disdaining the resorts which too many employ in times of trial, he ever cherished and pursued the path of honor, and thereby has been enabled to leave not to his family only, but to the world, an example rich and clear in all that is worthy man's earthly ambition. In his domestic as in

all other relations, Mr. Hamilton was a model of propriety and fidelity. Generous and kindly in his social intercourse, he was devoted and unremitting in his family. In 1836, at Milan, he was married to Miss Sarah O. Standart, who died in this city in June, 1873. There were born to them eight children, of whom seven yet survive—Thomas Jr., J. Kent, Robert W., and Mary, of Toledo; Mrs. Lucy Durfee, of Decatur, Illinois, and Charles and Frederick, of California.

Mr. Hamilton, though deeply engrossed in business, ever cultivated an interest in whatever concerned his fellow-men. Hence his prominence in public affairs. He was active and prominent in political matters, though never seeking official position or other special benefits therefrom. In 1847, unsolicited by himself, he was elected as State Senator from the Huron and Erie Districts, and was the Whig candidate again in 1853, in a Democratic District. But his main official service was in the more obscure positions of the village and township, where his unrequited labors were ever highly appreciated by the neighbors whom he served so well. The loss of his wife was a severe shock from which he never fully recovered, and he has since been often heard to express the sentiment that earth's hold on him was reduced to the strong tie which his loving children supplied.

HARLON E. SIMMONS died at his residence in Greenfield, Huron county, Ohio, on Sunday, March 21st, 7875, aged seventy-seven years. He was born in Rehoboth, Bristol county, Massachusetts, December 14, 1798, and came to Greenfield in December, 1819. An account of his journey to, and pioneer life in Greenfield, was published in the eleventh volume of the FIRE LANDS PIONEER, pages 86 to 89.

He owned a beautiful farm of over four hundred acres, one of the best in the county, on which he lived about fifty-five years, and where he died.

If he had lived a few months longer he would have celebrated his golden wedding. He was universally esteemed for his intelligence, his integrity of character, and his virtues in all the relations of life. From the discourse of Rev. H. L. Canfield, at his funeral, we quote the following appropriate tribute to his memory:

"It scarcely becomes me to speak at length of one whom most of you have known so many years. But I may say, from my own observation, as well as from the testimony of others, that he was an eminently *hopeful man*.

"In the midst of the trials incident to a long and laborious life, he was uniformly cheerful; always taking the hopeful view of things.

"And when the hand of disease arrested his active career, and when in its gradually tightening grasp he realized that the time of his departure was near at hand, he was calm and hopeful still, and at the last he passed to his rest as peacefully as a child to its slumber.

"For more than fifty-five years he lived in this township, and you who have known him best, know how much his strong arm and tireless industry have done towards the removal of the primitive forests and the development of the material prosperity of this region. But never, in his devotion to material things, did he forget the higher interests of life.

"Whatever tended to promote moral or intellectual culture, or social refinement, found always in him a warm friend and a ready helper.

"He was always to be found on the side of 'Whatsoever things were true and honest, whatsoever things were just and pure, whatsoever things were lovely and of good report.'

"Well may the thread of such a life run evenly, and hope be its constant inspiration.

"I am told that the first choir in this township was organized under his lead; and though for some years he has seldom been heard by voice or instrument in the church choir, yet his interest and delight in good music was not outlived, and the soul that was so readily stirred with 'concord of sweet sounds' while in the flesh, will appreciate the music of a better world.

"But the harmony of his soul was not all expressed in sounds; it found expression in the appointments of a well-ordered home, I had almost said, a model home; from the familiar scenes of which he will be sadly missed by the worthy companion who so long has shared his labors and his joys, and by those who, as children, have shared in his fatherly affections and profited by his fatherly counsels.

"I am glad that so many of his friends and neighbors, and fellow townsmen, are here to-day to honor the memory of one so worthy of their respect, and to sympathize with the bereaved.

"May the sterling integrity and the manly virtues of our deceased friend be kept in grateful memory by all who have known him; may the good example of his life be imitated. May we all so live as to share his cheerfulness in life and his hopefulness and peace in death. Thus shall we, though made subject to frailty and decay, find rich compensation in our earthly estate for all its trials, and departing, we shall leave behind us that which is better than worldly riches, *a good name.*

EDMUMD W. MEAD, an early settler on the Fire Lands, died in Norwalk, Ohio, April 5th, 1876. He was born in Litchfield county, Ct., April 4th, 1788, and completed his eighty-eighth year the day before his death. He removed to the Fire Lands from Connecticut in 1828, and settled in Norwalk, but soon after purchased the farm in Bronson where he afterwards resided, up to about ten years ago, when he returned to Norwalk. He leaves a widow, Mrs. Rachel Mead, now in the eighty-seventh year of her age, and with whom he lived sixty-three years.

LIVY RASH, died in Groton, Erie county, Ohio, March 27th, 1875, aged eighty years. He was born in Lenox, Berkshire county, Mass., May 12th, 1795. When but a small lad his parents moved to Ontario county, N. Y., taking their family with them. Livy Rash came to Lyme, or what was then known as Strong's Ridge, in 1819, on horseback. His brother Charles came in 1815. In 1820 they purchased the farm in Groton on which they both lived until their deaths; Charles dying May 21st, 1853; Livy, March 27th, 1875. Livy Rash was married in 1824 to Rhoa Bemiss, a noble, Christian woman, with whom he lived until her death, in 1869. They had three children, Elmira, Nancy and Maria. Maria died in 1844 at the age of 12 years. Nancy was married in 1863 to Allen Minzey. On his journey here in 1819, he passed over the ground now occupied by the city of Cleveland. There were only a few houses there then, and those were built of logs. At that time the Indians owned all the land west of Bellevue, and for a long time there were more Indians than white men. Mr. Rash was the youngest of a family of six children, of whom only one survives, a sister now 82 years old.

MINER LAWRENCE died at Occoquan, Virginia, January 19, 1876, aged seventy-three years. He was long and favorably known to a large part of the settlers on the Fire Lands. He was engaged in merchandise, farming and other business, and in all was active, honest and enterprising. He came to Norwalk as early as 1833, about five years after the organization of the village. In 1839 he removed to Greenfield, where he continued eight or nine years. He then return-

ed to Norwalk, remaining here until 1869, when he removed to Occoquan, Virginia. His acquaintances in Norwalk and elsewhere, will endorse one of his death-bed utterances: "I have always tried to make everybody happy with whom I came in contact. I have made mistakes, but my intentions were right though my judgment was wrong." Another of his death-bed utterances illustrates in a single sentence his whole life—"If the Lord sees fit to continue my life in this pain, I hope he will give me patience to endure it." The early citizens of Norwalk who remember Mr. Lawrence in his early manhood, will remember him as being especially active in every enterprise that tended to promote the welfare of the society in which he moved, both materially and spiritually. He was an honored member of the Presbyterian Church, a constant teacher in the Sunday School, and a member of the Session the last seven or eight years of his residence in the place. In these relations he discharged his duties most faithfully.

SUSANNA BRIGGS died at the residence of her son Alexander Briggs, in Norwich, Huron county, Ohio, on the 13th of January, 1875, aged eighty-six years, five months and twenty days. Her late consort, Benjamin Briggs, died in August, 1842. She was born July, 1788, in Barnard, Windsor county, Vermont, was married in November, 1809, and removed to Norwich in 1836, where she resided until her death.

MRS. NABBY GILSON died in Norwich, Huron county, Ohio, on the 21st of February, 1875, at the age of eighty-five years. She came there from New England in 1819, and from that time until her death, lived there, on the same place. Her husband died about twenty-six years ago. She left two sons and a daughter.

MRS. JULIA B. SUMMERS, wife of Benjamin Summers, died November 19th, 1874, at the residence of her son Zerah B. Summers, in Crown Point, Lake county, Indiana, aged sixty-nine years, eight months and ten days. The deceased was born in Bridgewater, Parish, Litchfield county, Connecticut, March 9th, 1805, came to Ohio and settled in Florence township, of the Firelands in June 1825, and was the mother of four children, two sons and one daughter surviving her. She was one of the first class of Methodists formed in Vermillion township in 1830 or 1831, and her husband followed soon after. Their house became known as the Preachers' home, and so continued for nearly thirty years until her failing health forbade, and changes in the circuits rendered it no longer necessary. The old pioneers well remember what it was to be the mistress of an Itinerant's home in those early days. She was a genuine pioneer, always diligent and careful in the management of her household; laborious in the toils of domestic life, punctual and devoted in her religious duties, gentle and kind in her social relations, she was loved and esteemed by a large circle of acquaintances. She and her husband were on a visit to the West when she died. Her funeral was attended by all her children and grandchildren except one.

Benjamin Summers died August 13th, 1875, at the residence of his son-in-law, Rev. G. H. Hartupee, of Mansfield, Ohio, aged about seventy-three years. He was born in Connecticut. His father, Mark Summers, emigrated to Ohio about sixty years ago. His children were then very young, and have ever since resided in Vermillion. At the time of their coming it was a wilderness and they went through all the hardships and trials incident to a new country. The father died some years since at over ninety years of age. Benjamin was for many years a prominent man, and well known in this region as a man of sterling honesty, and

more than average capacity. He was, once Associate Judge of Huron county, before Erie county was created. He has done a great amount of business for others, as executor, administrator, etc. He was an active man in benevolent enterprises, and very prominent in our pioneer affairs as historian, etc. Mr. Summers was twice married. By his last wife he had two sons—Zerah, now at Crown Point, Indiana, and Charles B., now in Chicago, and one daughter, now the wife of Rev. G. H. Hartupee, of Mansfield, Ohio. His remains were taken to Crown Point, Indiana, for interment.

ELANSON ROSE died at the residence of his son Hiram Rose, in Norwalk, Ohio, September 4th, 1875, aged eighty-six years and three months. He was born in Binghampton New York, June 2d, 1789. He studied medicine and practiced his profession for over thirty years. In the year 1811 he was married to Lusena Osborn, and eleven children were born of this union, all of whom, with the exception of two, who died in infancy, are still living. The eldest, wife of R. T. Miller, is living in FonduLac, Wisconsin; the next younger, Mrs. Edwin Gager, is a resident of Norwalk, as are also Hiram and Augustus, the second and third sons; the eldest son, George W., is a resident of Leraysville, Pennsylvania; Elanson, Jr., the next son, is living in Lorain county, the third daughter, widow of F. T. Brown, also formerly of Binghampton, is living with a married daughter in Toledo; the youngest daughter, Mrs. Hurlbut, is a resident of Fort Scott, Kansas; Edwin G., the youngest of the family, is living in Cleveland. In the year 1849 the deceased and wife, with the two youngest children, came to Norwalk, where he resided until his death. On November 28th, 1864, his wife died, at the age of seventy-three years and two months. For the last two years he had gradually failed, and on Saturday morning, just as the sun was dispelling the shadows of night, he sank peacefully to his rest. In all the relations of life with his fellow men he was honest and upright, generous to a fault, feeling keenly the wants and misfortunes of others, and doing all in his power to alleviate them. A kind and loving husband and father, a steadfast friend, ripe in years, he has passed away, leaving no memories behind save those of respect and love.

GURDON WOODWARD died in Bellevue, Ohio, December 8th, 1874, aged seventy-nine years, nine months and seventeen days. He had lived there about fifty-eight years. He was born in New London, Connecticut, in the year 1795, and in company with an older brother, came to Ohio when it was a wilderness, in the year 1816 and selected the place for his future home, known as the "Woodward tract" in Lyme.

These brothers, full of energy began "roughing it in the bush" with a perseverence and courage that knew nothing of failure. They erected their log cabin and began in earnest the work of reclaiming the then *wilds* of Ohio.

Their land was well chosen, and soon they had the satisfaction of seeing both forest and prairie becoming subject to their well-directed skill and industry.

Two years elapsed, when the subject of this sketch went back to Oneida county, New York, and was married, returning immediately to Ohio. Soon afterward other members of the family came in Ohio and settled on adjoining farms. The family circle being now established the clearing of the farms and increasing the comforts and conveniences of home steadily advanced from year to year.

In the spring of 1858, when his children had grown up and in great part settled in life, he gave up the active duties of the farm, moving to Bellevue; but re-

taining enough of the business management of it as was agreable and useful to one who had always led an active and industrious life. Having an unusually well developed constitution that was never impaired by irregular habits, he enjoyed a large share of excellent health even when the country was new.

He was in the eightieth year of his age, yet in many respects his mental vigor was unabated, and until within a few months his step was as firm and his body erect as if he were a much younger man.

MOSES SOWERS died in Lexington, Richland county, Ohio, February 16th, 1875, at the age of eighty-four years. The Mansfield *Herald* says of him:

"Mr. Sowers was born in York county, Pennsylvania, and emigrated to Fairfield county, Ohio, in 1811, where he remained until 1815, when he moved, with his father's family, to Huron county, Ohio, and settled where the town of Monroeville now stands—being one of the pioneers of the Fire-Lands. He built and owned the first grist and saw mill in that township, and hauled the first load of sawed lumber to what is now the town of Norwalk. He remained there until the year 1832, when he and Mr. A. B. Beverstock removed to Lexington, and engaged in the dry goods trade, in which business he has been engaged ever since, with the exception of ten years, which were devoted to other pursuits. He has been a resident of Lexington for forty-two and a half years.

JOHN ROADARMEL died in Bronson, Huron county, Ohio, December 12th 1874, aged eighty-three years.

CATHARINE MACKEY died in Milan, Ohio, December 18th, 1865, aged sixty-five years, five months.

PHILANDER H. WILBOR, a native of Milan, Ohio, and son of Philander and Susan Wilbor, died at Cheyenne, Wyoming Territory, May 9th, 1876, aged thirty eight years.

MRS. ELIZA MOREHOUSE, wife of D. E. Morehouse, died in Norwalk, Ohio, January 2d, 1875, of pneumonia, aged forty-nine years and ten months. In all the relations of life she left a bright record and the inspiration of a pure Christian character, an example for those who deplore her loss.

SARAH NICOLLS, died in Bronson Huron county Ohio, on the third day of April, 1876, aged eighty-four years. She had lived there thirty-nine years.

DEBORAH FERRIS PATRICK, wife of Shepherd Patrick, died at their residence, in Norwalk, Ohio, April 18, 1876, aged eighty-two years. She was a daughter of the late Benjamin Drake, and was married in Oxford, Huron county, Ohio, on the third of January, 1822. In May, 1824, She removed to Lyons, Wayne county, New York, where the next ten years of her life were passed. While here, she united with the church under the early ministry of Rev. John A. Clark, who at that time was missionary at this and points adjacent. Leaving Lyons, she came to Norwalk, Ohio, in May, 1834, where her home was until her death.

Her life was one of remarkable energy and activity. At home and in the church these characteristics ever stood out prominently. In the first, no duty was slighted, no care omitted that would help to make home dear to those whom God had given her. In the last, until within a few months past, her place was always filled, for she loved her church and the services which it provided for a willing people to worship their God.

She left a husband with whom she had lived for fifty-four years, and five sons, all of whom were with her at the time of her death. For the past fifteen years these five sons had met at ten o'clock every Sabbath morning, with their pa-

rents, without a single exception. There had not been a death directly in the family for fifty years, and the deceased had not known a sick day for thirty years previous to her eightieth year.

LEICESTER WALKER, died at his residence in Perkins township, Erie county Ohio, May 6, 1875, aged seventy-eight years, four months and nineteen days. He was born in Herkimer county, New York, December 17, 1796, being left an orphan at the age of about eight years. His trade was that of a carpenter and joiner. He settled at Sandusky, Ohio, in the year 1818, and assisted in putting up many of the first frame buildings in Sandusky and vicinity. During the first ten or twelve years of his residence at that place, his health was seriously impaired by exposure and fatigue, induced by his almost constant labors for the sick, many of whom died for the want of care and nursing. Mr. Walker, often working throughout the daytime, at his trade, took care of the sick during the nights. It was no uncommon occurrence for him to take care of several families alone at the same time, going from house to house throughout the whole night, where not one was able to help another, and after administering medicines, and giving each such care as he could, going to the next house or hut, and doing there all the work of the Good Samaritan. Through these labors his own health became permanently impaired.

In 1825, March 31st, he married Miss Juliet Andrews of Richland county, Ohio, (who survived him about four months). In 1832, he removed to his farm in Perkins, about four miles from the city, where he continued to reside to the time of his death; and where he reared a family of seven sons and one daughter.

Mr. Walker always took a deep interest in the political questions of the day, in which, being a great reader, he was well informed. Until the year 1856, when slavery extension became the principal political issue, he was identified with the Democratic party; but when it became clear to his mind that it was the champion of human bondage, he abandoned it, and identified himself with the Union or Republican party, with which he continued until his death. He was an active supporter of the government in its efforts to crush the slaveholder's rebellion, three of his sons serving in the Union army throughout the war, doing noble service; one of whom, Major Lester Walker, of North Platt, Nebraska, served in the regular army, from May, 1861, to December 1872, when he resigned his commission as major and retired to private life.

Mr. Walker, though not a professor of religion, was a firm believer in the Bible and in the blessed Savior, his views inclining to the doctrines of the Universalist denomination. He was earnest in all he did, out-spoken in his views—despising cant and hypocrisy; the needy and helpless had no truer friend and hypocrites no greater enemy. His death was peaceful and calm as the repose of a child. He was the father of George R. Walker, Esq., of Norwalk.

JULIET WALKER, relict of Leicester Walker deceased, died at Berlin, Iowa county, Michigan, on the twelfth day of September, 1875, while visiting a married daughter; her age was sixty-nine years, eleven months and seven days. She was born in Beaver county, Pennsylvania, October 5, 1805. Her parents removed to Richland county, Ohio, near Mansfield, sometime before the war of 1812, where they continued to reside until their death, which was at a very great age, the deceased being the youngest of fourteen children.

Mrs. Walker was one of the pioneer mothers of Erie county, having been a resident there more than fifty, and of

Perkins more than forty-two years. With her husband she lived to celebrate her golden wedding on March 31, 1875, to rear seven sons and one daughter to lives of usefulness; and at the ripe age of nearly three score and ten years she passed to her reward in perfect peace. For more than fifty years Mrs. Walker had been a member of the Congregational church, living in precept and example the life of a consistent follower of Christ. Always ready at the call of the sick, or any in need of sympathy or aid, a devoted moth- and wife. It may be said of her: "She hath done what she could," and "her children will rise up and call her blessed." She sleeps the sleep of the righteous.

WILLIAM MILLER died near New Haven, Ohio, February 15, 1875, of lung fever, aged seventy-three years, eleven months and twenty-five days.

FREDERICK KITTREDGE died of heart disease, at his residence, in Waseca, Minnesota, January 4th, 1875, in the thirty-fifth year of his age. He was a lawyer by profession, but preferred agriculture. He was a lawyer by profession, but preferred agriculture. He was a son of Dr. Wm. F. Kittridge, of Norwalk, Ohio, President of the First National Bank there, and was highly educated, modest, kind, and most esteemed by those who knew him best. The Janesville (Minn.) *Argus* said of him:

"Mr. Kittridge was born in Norwalk, Ohio, came to this State in '60, was a soldier in the outbreak of '62, a farmer for several years near Okaman, and a resident of Waseca since the fall of '70. A man of culture, the soul of honor, courteous in address, refined in manner, of generous impulses and aspirations, he was a good representative of an old line gentleman, with the free and hearty good will of western social life. A positive character, he possessed fine social qualities which made him the center of the social circle. An honored son, a devoted husband, fond father, genial friend and good citizen, he has ceased from his labors, and left a blank in our social life which will not soon be filled."

ELIZA G. FOLLETT, wife of Oran Follett, died at Sandusky, Ohio, April 29, 1876, aged seventy-four years, seven months and twelve days. Her maiden name was Eliza G. Ward. She was born in Albany, New York, September 17th, 1801, and was the daughter of Daniel and Martha Ward. Her father died in early life. Her mother lived to the far advanced age of ninety-five, and died in this city in June, 1871. On the 22d of November, 1832, Eliza G. Ward was married to Oran Follett at Fairport, New York. She became a resident of Sandusky in May, 1834. For forty-two years Mrs. Follett was an active, unostentatious and faithful worker in that city, doing good, relieving the poor and the needy, comforting the afflicted, encouraging the fearful, smoothing the pathway of those tempted to go astray, and yet never for a moment forgetting or neglecting the duties she owed her own family. From one end of the city to the other, in out of the way places, in hovels, in every abode of want, this patient, tireless and cheerful spirit was at hand helping and comforting and blessing those who but for her love would have had no friends on earth. No form of want, no degree of sorrow, but found in Mrs. Follett a helping hand and a comforter. If pecuniary assistance were not needed, some more gentle means of relief than the supplying of bodily necessities were sure to be extended by this friend of humanity. A bunch of flowers left in the sick room, a cheerful word of encouragement, or some other token, slight in itself, yet bearing golden fruit, was her ready witness of unselfish devotion to others. But it was peculiarly to the soldiers and their families during the dark days of the war that Mrs. Follett proved a friend and comforter.. From the opening day of the war to its close she gave herself up to watchful care of

the soldiers and their families. Rain and storm, cold and heat, could not keep her back from what she called her duty and loved to regard as a privilege. Her mind was clear to the last, and her anxiety to perform little duties manifested itself even on the last day. But a few hours before she died, she directed one of her family to purchase and give to each member of her Sunday school class a copy of a new song book about to be introduced. Mrs. Follett was the most beloved, the most faithful and the most useful member of the Presbyterian church. She proved her faith by her works, and she made the two one and the same, religion being to her, life. Besides her husband, the deceased leaves two children, Mrs. F. E. Foster, of Toledo, and Mrs. Flamen Ball, of Cincinnati.

WALTER BATES was accidentally killed in what was known as the Merry Mill, in Milan, Ohio, in February, 1875, aged fifty-six years. He had purchased part of the mill, and was repairing it. In putting the cylinder, or heater, to the boiler in position, the propping which held it gave way, causing the ponderous mass of iron to roll or slide forward. Mr. Bates was caught between this and another portion of the machinery, and his head was crushed into a shapeless mass. One of his legs was also broken and his body was otherwise bruised and mangled. Of course his death was instantaneous. He had been connected with the steam mill in Norwalk, and prior to that with the mill in Clarksfield, and was well and honorably known in both counties. He had been a prominent member of the Presbyterian church at Norwalk, and was one of its officers and active in religious and benevolent efforts.

J. E. HANFORD was accidentally killed on his farm in Wakeman, Huron county, Ohio, on the ninth of April, 1875, aged sixty-nine years. He was found in his stable, lying on the floor, face downward, and examination proved that he was dead. The supposition is that he was engaged in cleaning a young horse that he had never driven but once, when he received a kick just below the lower region of the heart that caused instant death. The curry-comb with which he had been at work was grasped in his hand when found. He was one of the most prosperous farmers in Huron county, and stood high in the estimation of his neighbors and all with whom he was acquainted. He had been for many years a prominent member and supporter of the Episcopal church in Wakeman; had held the office of Justice of the Peace and other positions of public trust.

ADALINE HARKNESS PETERS, wife of Israel Peters, died in Norwalk, Ohio, March 16, 1876. She was born May 22, 1821, in Aurelius, Cayuga county, New York; was married May 26, 1842, and soon after removed with her husband to Norwalk. They there united with the Methodist Episcopal church. In her death, the church lost a faithful witness, the poor a kind benefactor, and the surviving family a devoted wife and mother.

ALVIN BRIGHTMAN died in Bronson on the first of September, 1875, aged fifty-seven years, seven months, twenty days.

ELECTA HERRICK, wife of E. W. Herrick, died in Bronson on the twenty-eighth of April, 1876, aged seventy-five years, five months, three days.

HARRISON WILT died in Bellevue, Ohio, January 31st, 1875. He had resided there about forty years.

GEORGE SKAATS died in Bronson, Huron county, Ohio, May 12th, 1875, aged seventy-eight years. He came to that township in 1833, where he purchased and cleared a farm on which he lived until his death.

RUFUS SHELDEN died in Fitchville, Huron county, Ohio, January 1st, 1875, aged sixty-six years. He came from Oneida county, New York, to Greenwich in 1824 and was one of the pioneer settlers of that township. He was zealous in the temperance cause and in every good word and work.

MRS. JERUSHA TAINTER died in Hartland, Huron county, Ohio, November 9th, 1874, in the ninety-first year of her age. She had lived over half a century on the farm where died, honored and loved by all who knew her.

CHARLES CHILD died in Fairfield, Huron county, Ohio, December 18th, 1874, aged seventy-three years and six months. He lived in that township about thirty-five years.

ANNA HARRIS died in Norwalk, Ohio, January 16th 2875, aged eighty-five years.

ORRIN M. BABCOCK died in Nelson, Lee county, Illinois, January 15th 1875, aged thirty-nine years. He moved from Norwalk, Ohio, in 1863, where he formerly resided.

EUNICE BROWN died in Fairfield, Huron county, Ohio, November 8th, 1874, in the eighty-seventh year of her age. She came there from Delaware county, New York, in 1839, and was for thirty-five years an exemplary member of the Baptist church in Fairfield.

LEVI ROSCO died in North Milan, November 17th, 1874, aged sixty-four years.

MRS. HORATIO MINUSE, relict of Horatio Minuse and mother of Mrs. L. G. Saunders, died in Milan, Ohio, December 21st, 1874, aged sixty-three years.

SALLY CONGER, wife of David Conger, died in Bronson, Huron county, Ohio, March 2d, 1875, aged eighty-one years. She, with her husband, came from Cayuga county, New York, in 1819, and settled on the farm where she died, giving her a continuous residence of fifty-six years in the same place. Her married life extended over a period of sixty years. At the time of her settlement in Bronson there was scarcely a log cabin in Norwalk, and nearly all of Huron county was an unbroken wilderness. Mrs. Conger was devotedly attached to her home and the welfare of her family. She had a feeling heart and the needy and distressed ever found in her a sympathizing friend. Of a family of nine brothers and sisters of Mrs. Conger, four brothers still survive—Rial and Nelson Parker of Bronson, Henry Parker of Auburn, New York, and William Parker of Moravia, New York.

JOSEPH BURNSIDE died in Bloom township, Seneca county, Ohio, on the 3d of May, 1875, aged seventy years. He came from Pennsylvania in 1817, and was probably the oldest pioneer of that county.

LEVI PALMER, one of the oldest settlers of Fitchville, Huron county, Ohio, died March 9th, 1875, aged eighty-six years. He came from Fairfield county, Connecticut, in 1789 and settled in Fitchville in 1826 or 1827. He was a worthy, useful and valued citizen.

DR. ALFRED SEGUR, an old and much esteemed resident of Clarksfield, Huron county, Ohio, died at the residence of his son-in-law, H. L. Jones, in Norwalk, March 20th 1875, of cancer in the stomach. For several years he was in Salina, Kansas, but returned to Norwalk a year before he died.

AMY G. SMITH, widow of the late Ezra Smith, an old resident of Maxville, in Huron county, Ohio, died at the Springs, near San Jose, California, on the 26th of May, 1875. She was the mother of Dr. John Sanders' wife, formerly of Norwalk, and with whom she lived for many years at Norwalk and Cleveland.

DR. AUSTIN STARBIRD died in New

London, Huron county, Ohio, March 23d, 1875, aged fifty-five years. He was born near the city of Philadelphia, January 31st, 1820, and came to Ohio in his boyhood. He married Miss Mary J. Fulton near Massilon, December 14th, 1843. He studied medicine and began the practice of his profession at Massilon. He removed to New London in April, 1851, where he pursued his profession until his death. He was a member of the village council, was township treasurer, and held other positions evincing the confidence of his fellow citizens. He was kind hearted and benevolent, capable in his profession, and had an extensive practice. He was liberal in his religious views, and his last utterance was, "The doctrine of universal Catholicism is correct."

NATHANIEL MILLS died at the residence of his daughter, Mrs. Nathaniel Runyon, in New London, Huron county, Ohio, February 24, 1875, in the ninety-second year of his age. He was born in Canterburry, Orange county, New York, June 28, 1783. He married Martha Pierce January 13, 1811. He enlisted as a volunteer in the army in 1814, and was seriously wounded at Fort Erie, and so disabled as to be discharged from the service. He came to Greenwich, Huron county, Ohio, in 1838, united with the Baptist church of Fitchville, and officiated as deacon until his death. His wife died February 3, 1852, aged sixty-seven years. A few months before his death, he remarked, "I have never tasted of intoxicating drinks as a beverage in all my life, and have never been sick to amount to anything." He lived a long life of pious, quiet usefulneas, and died of extreme old age, amid the blessings of all around him.

R. W. STEVENS died in New London, Huron county, Ohio, in October, 1875, aged about sixty-six years. When quite young, he came from the State of New York to the Fire Lands. He was a cooper by trade, and lived the life of a consistent christian. He was generous and hospitable and his home in the early days, afforded shelter to many itinerant Methodist preachers.

LUCY STEVENS, relict of the late Guy Stevens, died in Toledo, Ohio, May 30, 1876, aged seventy-three years and seven months. Mrs. Stevens maiden name was Lucy Abbott. She was the daughter of David Abbott, who, in early days, was sheriff of Northern Ohio. She was born in 1802, at Chagrin Falls, Ohio, and was among the first white children born in the State. In 1810, her family moved to Milan. In 1826, she married Guy Stevens, a man well and favorably known for his energy and ability. He built the first foundry in Milan, the one now occupied by Mr. J. Butman. They had five children, three sons and two daughters, all yet living. The father died in 1841, his widow surviving him thirty-five years. For some years Mrs. Stevens had been residing at Toledo, where her sons reside, but her remains were taken to Milan and interred in the cemetery beside the remains of her husband. Mrs. Stevens enjoyed a high place in the affections and esteem of all who knew her.

BENJAMIN WILLIAMS died in Olena Ohio, July 23d, 1875, aged ninety-one years.

LEVI DEVOE died in Plymouth, Ohio, August nineteenth, 1875, aged seventy-seven years. He was an old resident of that township.

AMY ANGEL died in Bronson, Huron county, Ohio, September eighteenth, 1875, aged eighty-eight years. She had been a member of the Baptist church over fifty years and resided in the county over forty-three years.

NATHANIEL MILLS died in New London, Ohio, February 24, 1875, aged ninety-one years.

EDITORIAL NOTES.

THE STATE ARCHÆOLOGICAL ASSOCIATION OF OHIO.—A Convention was held at Mansfield, Ohio, September 1 and 2, 1875, and a society was formed under the above name, to promote investigation of the mounds and earthworks of the State; to collect facts, descriptions, relics, and other evidences of the pre-historic races; and to awaken an interest in the general subject of Archæology. All associations within the State having an Archæological department or collection may be auxiliaries to it by furnishing annually a list of their specimens and a copy of their publications. Its library and cabinet are to be located in Columbus. The Firelands Historical Society was represented in the convention by Dr. A. H. Agard and Hon. F. D. Parish, of Erie County. Resolutions were adopted for a convention at Philadelphia, and the organization of an Archæological Congress of America, and their enterprise has since been successfully accomplished, by the efforts of the Ohio Association. The proceedings of both the State and National conventions were very interesting, and we much regret that we have not space in this number to present some of the valuable facts collected and published by them to our readers.

The officers of the State Association are R. Brinkerhoff, of Mansfield, President; N. S. Townsend, of Columbus, General Secretary; O. H. Booth, of Mansfield, Recording Secretary; M. Hensel, of Columbus, Treasurer; J. H. Klippart, of Columbus, Librarian and Depositary; nine Vice Presidents and nine Trustees.

All persons interested in the subject of Archæology are invited to correspond with the Secretary or Librarian of the Association.

PRE-HISTORIC REMAINS.—Mr. William Barnum, of Clarksfield, has presented to the Firelands Historical Society a mammoth elk antler and a smaller deer horn, which he unearthed at the east branch of the Vermillion river. These remains were found some four feet under the surface, where they have lain for ages.

Dr. J. P. Henderson of Newville, Richland county, has an extensive and valuable collection of Indian and other Archaeological relics, which is said to be the best private collection in the State.

A correspondent of the Sandusky *Register* writing from Put-in-Bay, says that some citizens of that island while plowing and scraping the lawn in front of the Put-in-Bay House, to make the same level for parading purposes, came upon and exhumed two complete skeletons, supposed to be the remains of Indians. They are preserved and will be sent to some naturalist. One was about seven feet tall.

In the spring of 1875, in Fairfield,

Huron county, on the farm of A. E. Smith, in plowing, at the depth of some fifteen inches, a perfect human skeleton was revealed, lying nearly north and south on its back. The right arm lay by the side, and under the bones of the hand lay a large knife, and near it an old-fashioned steel and flint. There was near to this the bones of some animal, apparently those of a dog or some wild beast. The human bones were in a pretty good state of preservation, though somewhat decayed. The skull had been fractured some time during life and again united, leaving quite a dent or depression. The teeth were unusually large and prominent.

Rev. A. E. Bishop found on the farm of his father-in-law G. P. Birdseye, in Norwalk, an Indian chisel made of real slate, different from any of the shales found in this region, and it bears the marks of usage. It is about three inches long, and in shape is a segment of a circle.

In the Archaeological department of the Centennial Exhibition at Philadelphia, Ohio has taken the lead, Cincinnati alone furnishing a large proportion of contribution from the entire West. Fifty boxes were sent from that city.

The Huron and Erie counties' Agricultural Societies have both proffered the use of buildings on their respective grounds, to the Fire-Lands Historical Society, for exhibiting its collections. Hereafter the Society will endeavor to make them an attractive feature at the annual Fairs. J. D. Chamberlain Esq., of Norwalk has been appointed Custodian of all relics offered for exhibition. He will receive and take care of all sent to him and will return those not donated, to their owners, at the close of the Exhibition.

A Double Pioneer Shot.—Loyal Reding, of Norwalk, one of our most respected and veracious citizens, gives us this extraordinary incident in his pioneer life: In 1819, he was living with his father, John Reding, in Ridgeville, Lorain county, Ohio. His home was on the north side of the Ridge road running from Norwalk to Cleveland. On the south side was the barn, and a few rods from that was what was called a cat swamp, frequented by wild cats. On one evening in the summer, they heard the cry of a wild cat, and both John Reding and Ira Peck, who were in the house, seized their rifles and sallied out in different directions to seek the animal. Loyal Reding stood in the door of the house, and, after waiting some time, heard a single loud report, as of one gun only. When the animal was brought in, both claimed to have shot it. On opening the body, both bullets were found welded together. Both had fired at the same instant. The bullets entered the body from angling directions and met at the skull of the cat, making but one hole, and the report of the guns sounded as one. They stood at distances of twelve or fourteen rods apart, and about the same from the cat.

The Universalist Church of Norwalk.—The sketch of this church, which we publish in this volume of the Pioneer, under the head of "Church History," was written by Mr. Kellogg four years ago. Since then the church has been completed, and was dedicated in December, 1872. The building and ground cost about $17,000, and the church is entirely free from debt. William A. Mack, Esq., of Norwalk, presented to it a beautiful church organ, which cost $2,000. Its eminent and widely esteemed founder, Rev. H. L. Canfield, continued in the pastoral charge of the church until January 1, 1876, when he resigned, from impaired health, and Rev. E. Hathaway is its present able pastor. The Peru church is in charge of Rev. Samuel Ashton.

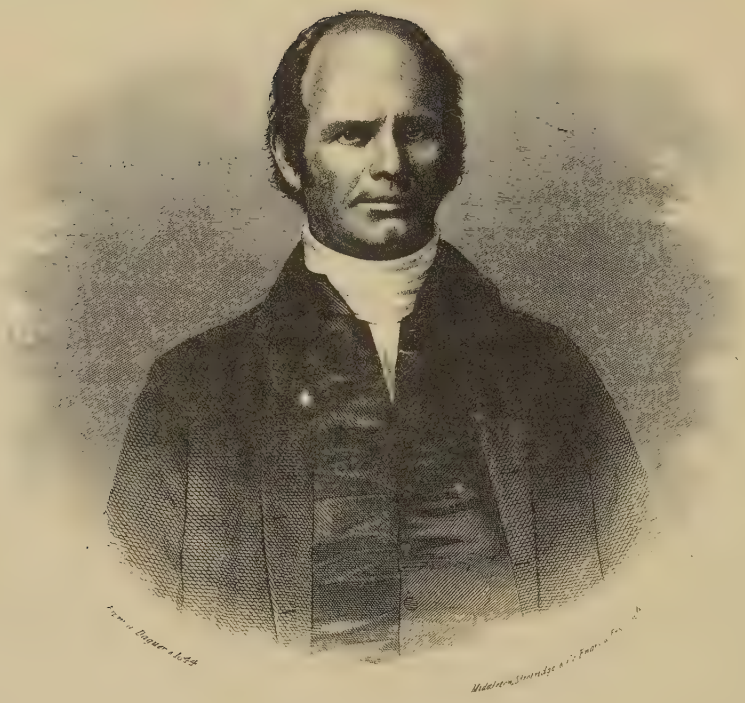
MEMBERS OF THE FIRE LANDS HISTORICAL SOCIETY,

CONTINUED FROM VOLUME 16TH.

NAMES.	RESIDENCE.	WHEN AND WHERE BORN.	WHEN AND WHERE SETTLED ON LANDS.
Bailey, Omar, jr.	Norwalk,	Ivesburgh, Vt., 1840.	Oberlin, 1842.
Baker, H. T.	Bellevue,	Bellevue, 1834.	
Beard, Jane M.	Norwalk,	Pendleton Co., Ky., 1828.	Norwalk, 1836.
Beard, Charles B.	Norwalk,	Stansted Co., Can. E. 1822.	Ripley, 1834.
Bostwick, C. R.	Norwalk,	Lewis Co., N. Y., 1818.	Hartland, 1844.
Boughton, J. G.	Norwalk,	Fitchville, 1839.	
Bragg, John,	Bellevue,	Devonshire, Eng., 1806.	Lyme, 1836.
Brooks, Philo,	Greenfield,	Windham, Vt., 1811.	Greenfield, 1817.
Butt, Geo.	Norwalk,	New York City, 1834.	Norwalk, 1869.
Canfield, H. L.	Norwalk,	Columbia Co., N. Y., 1828.	Peru, 1864.
Chaffee, Tammaso,	Hartland,	Hartland, 1835.	
Chaffee, Calvin O.	Hartland,	Hartland, 1835.	
Chamberlain, Drussilla	Norwalk,	Tonbridge, Kent, Eng. 1833.	Norwalk, 1859.
Chamberlain, J. D.	Norwalk,	Oswego Co., N. Y., 1818.	Norwalk, 1859.
Cherry, Anna,	Norwalk,		Townsend, 1816.
Close, Coleman,	Norwalk,	New York, 1825.	Fairfield, 1836.
Elliott, Richard G.	Wakeman,	Greenwood, N. Y., 1827.	Wakeman 1834.
Gibson, L. L.	Norwalk,	New York, 1813.	
Gillett, Caroline M.	Clarksfield,	North Hector.	Clarksfield, 1836.
Griffin, Hulda,		Greenwich, 1829.	
Harkness, Nancy,	Norwalk,	Canada West, 1796.	Norwalk, 1836.
Ivory, Clarissa,	Norwalk,	Windsor, 1812.	Birmingham, 1826.
Ivory, Erastus,	Norwalk,	Huron Co., O., 1821.	
Kennan, Mary A.	Norwalk,	Ontario Co., N. Y., 1811.	Ridgefield, 1818.
Kennan, Asa B.	Norwalk,	Norwalk, 1853.	
Kennan, Henry L.	Norwalk,	Norwalk, 1852.	
Kennan, Jairus R.	Norwalk,	Norwalk, 1850.	
Kinney, Mrs. Elizabeth,	York,		
Kryster, Sarah T. T.		Greenwich, 1833.	
Lawrence, Celista,	Norwalk,	Lansing, N. Y., 1812.	Bronson, 1833.
Lawrence, Timothy,	Norwalk,	Fairfield Co., Ct., 1800.	Bronson, 1833.
Manahan, Chas. W.	Norwalk,	Cayuga Co., N. Y. 1814.	Norwalk, 1833.
Mead, Rachel,	Norwalk,	Delaware Co., N. Y., 1790.	Norwalk, 1828.
Mitchell, Elizabeth A.	Norwalk,	Delaware Co., N. Y., 1816.	Norwalk, 1828.
Paine, Mary A.			Ripley, 1834.
Perry, Mary D.	Norwalk,	Weston, Ct., 1803.	Norwalk, 1826.
Perry, O. S.	Norwalk,	Weston, Ct., 1805.	Norwalk, 1834.
Pierce, A. W.	Townsend,	Charlotte, Vt., 1833.	1857.
Rogers, Otis M.		Ripley, O., 1833.	
Sherman, Polly,	Norwalk,	Delaware, 1800.	Norwalk, 1817.
Smith, Hester P.	Norwalk,	Westmoreland Co. Pa. 1803.	Norwalk, 1836.
Standart, Mrs. E. J.	Bellevue,		Lyme, 1824.
Standart, S. W.	Bellevue,	Clarence, N. Y., 1817.	Lyme, 1821.
Stebbins, Mrs. Eliza,	Lyme,	Ontario, N. Y., 1810.	Lyme, 1834.
Sturtevant, H. A.		Ruggles, 1831,	
Sweet, Lucy,	Norwalk,	Onondaga Co., N. Y. 1823.	Monroeville, 1828.
Sweet, Levi H.	Norwalk,	Wayne Co., N. Y., 1814.	Greenfield, 1826.
Thomas, Edwin D.	Hartland,	Hartland, 1830.	
Tyler, H. P.	Norwalk,	Hector, N. Y., 1819.	Clarksfield, 1833.
Upson, Debrah M.	Norwalk,	New Canaan, Ct., 1801.	Norwalk, 1860.
Van Sciver, S. T. A.	Norwalk,	Philadelphia, 1829.	Norwalk, 1860.
Warner, Mary,	Norwalk,	Clinton, N. Y., 1798.	Sandusky, 1860.
Warner, Sally Ann,	Norwalk,	Groveland, N. Y., 1815.	Norwalk, 1859.
Warner, Alanson,	Norwalk,	Stanford, N. Y., 1816.	
Welsh, Sally,	Hartland,	Rupert, Vt., 1789.	Hartland, 1836.
Whiting, W. H.	Norwalk,	Birmingham, 1833.	
Williams, James B,	Norwalk,	Norwalk, O., 1832.	
Williams, Theodore.	Norwalk,	Norwalk, O., 1820.	

CONTENTS OF VOLUME XII.

	Page.
Quarterly Meeting at Wakeman	1
Quarterly Meeting at Greenwich	3
Annual Meeting at Norwalk	6
Quarterly Meeting at Huron	11
Quarterly Meeting at Bellevue	13
Annual Meeting at Norwalk	15
Revolutionary Documents on Centennail Day	17
History of Huron Township	18
Pioneers of Huron Township	26
Russia Township, Lorain county	28
Historical Address by A. D. Skellenger	30
Old Lawyers of the Fire Lands	36
Church History	45
Christ Church in Huron	63
Poetry	64
The First Temperance Society of Ohio	76
Military History—Eighth O. V. I	77
Company D Thirty-fourth O. V. I	83
Volunteers in the Mexican War	86
Items from the Battle Fields	87
Pioneer History—Incidents in the Life of Susan A. Wilbor	90
Biography of H. M. Cunningham	95
The First Marriage in Richland Co.	99
The First Stage Coach	100
N. M. Standart	101
Rev. E. Conger	102
Stephen and Emeline Robinson	105
Personal Reminiscences of Rev. H. D. Sheldon	106
Almost a Centenarian	110
Captain Joseph Pelton	111
Harvey Fowler, of Margaretta	112
Obituary Record	114
Editorial Notes	125
Members of the Fire Lands Historical Society	127



W. O. Shelton

THE FIRE LANDS PIONEER.

VOLUME XIII.—JULY, 1878.

FIRE LANDS HISTORICAL SOCIETY

SOCIETY MEETINGS.

TWENTY-FIRST ANNUAL MEETING.

The twenty-first annual meeting of the Society—and the next succeeding the annual meeting of July 4th, 1876,—took place in Whittlesey Hall, Norwalk, on the 30th day of June, 1877.

MORNING SESSION.

The meeting was called to order at 10:30 a. m. by President P. N. Schuyler, and the Vice Presidents and other officers were invited to take seats on the stage. A prayer was then offered by the Rev. A. Newton, followed by the roll call, to which the following officers responded:

President—P. N. Schuyler.

Vice Presidents—J. H. Niles, Philo Wells, Martin Kellogg, E. O. Merry, Isaac Underhill, Stark Adams, James Arnold, A. D. Skellenger, E. J. Waldron and J. D. Chamberlain.

Recording Secretary—Horatio Barr.

Corresponding Secretary—G. T. Stewart.

Treasurer—Erastus Gray.

Directors—P. N. Schuyler, Martin Kellogg and C. E. Newman.

Biographer—C. C. Woodruff.

Custodian—J. D. Chamberlain.

The minutes of last meeting were read, and, on motion, approved.

The Secretary made a verbal report on behalf of the Publication Committee, which showed a deficiency of two hundred dollars and ninety-four cents ($200.94).

The Biographer, C. C. Woodruff, then read personal sketches of the following pioneers: Mr. Thomas Lawrence, aged 83; Mrs. Sally O. Gilson, aged 85; Mr. Daniel Watrous, aged 80; Mrs. Daniel Sherman, aged 87; Mr. Alanson Raymond, aged 89; Mrs. Elizabeth Raymond, wife of Alanson Raymond, aged 79, and who died just two weeks after her husband, they having lived together for sixty years; Daniel Hamilton, aged 75; and Sterling Newcomb, aged 66.

It being nearly noon, and there being other business to attend to before the noon adjournment, the Biographer withdrew until 1:30. On motion of Mr. C. E. Newman, a committee of five was then appointed to nominate officers for the ensuing year. The President appointed C. H. Gallup, Norwalk; J. H. Niles, Norwich; E. O. Merry, Lyme; Chauncey Woodruff, Peru; and James Arnold, Townsend.

Adjournment until 1:30 p. m.

AFTERNOON SESSION.

The Society was called to order at 1:30 by the President. The Committee on Officers made the following report:

For President—P. N. Schuyler.

For Vice Presidents—J. H. Niles, Norwich; Calvin Caswell, Margaretta; Philo Wells, Vermillion; Martin Kellogg, Bronson; E. O. Merry, Lyme; Luther Avery, Groton; D. G. Barker, Ripley; John Kelly, Danbury; Isaac Underhill, Ridgefield; Stark Adams, Huron; William Lockwood,

Milan; James Arnold, Townsend; A. D. Skellenger, New London; Major Smith, Clarksfield; J. M. Whiton, Wakeman; Zalmuna Phillips, Berlin; E. J. Waldron, Hartland; R. W. Beckwith, Fitchville; J. T. Parker, Fairfield; J. D. Chamberlain, Norwalk; S. F. Taylor, Sandusky; D. G. Taylor, Perkins; Andrew Prout, Oxford; Chas. Call, Greenfield; Henry Adams, Peru; E. Dickinson, New Haven; D. Sweetland, Richmond; Lovell McCrillis, Sherman; Erastus Huntington, Kelley's Island; W. Burch, Ruggles; H. G. Washburn, Greenwich; and Homer Brooks, Florence.

Recording Secretary—Horatio Barr.

Corresponding Secretary—G. T. Stewart.

Treasurer—Erastus Gray.

Director—P. N. Schuyler, Judge A. W. Hendry, E. O. Merry, Martin Kellogg and C. E. Newman.

Biographer—Dr. A. D. Skellenger.

The Biographer then resumed his reading, and read biographical sketches of Rev. Phineas Barber, aged 84; Ann Ida Simmons, aged 78; John Clark, aged 83, Mrs. I. T. Reynolds; Benoni Adams, aged 92; Joseph Pierce, aged 72; John Laylin, aged 86; Mrs. Lyman Scott, aged 71; John Buckingham, aged 84; James Sweet, aged 90; Joseph French, aged 68; Theodore French, aged 79; and Mrs. Arvilla Russell. The Biographer stated that during the past year over thirty of the pioneers had died. The choir then sang "Auld lang syne."

The President next introduced Judge Hendry, of Sandusky, who delivered a most interesting address on the first settlement and early history of what is now known as Sandusky City. The address, in full, will be found in this volume of the *Pioneer*.

On motion of C. E. Newman, a vote of thanks was given to Judge Hendry for his address, and it was ordered to be published in the next volume of the *Pioneer*.

President Schuyler presented the subject of the Society debt, and was followed by C. C. Woodruff, C. E. Newman and J. D. Chamberlain, all of whom urged the members to purchase books to help pay the debt, and that if all the books now on hand could be sold, there would be money enough to pay for the next volume. Mr. J. D. Chamberlain was authorized to canvas the Fire Lands, and sell all the books now on hand.

H. Hoak, of Berlin, presented some proof sheets of plates for counterfeiting money, found on the farm of Sarah Williams, near Milan. A flint-lock musket was presented to the Society by Ami Keeler. It was one that did good service in the early days of the Fire Lands.

Dr. A. D. Skellenger, in addressing the meeting, said: "It has been the custom ever since the organization of this Society, for its members to present old and curious relics. I will now change the order by presenting something new. It is so new that I do not believe there is a person in the house that has ever seen one before, and I think it will have much to do with the future history of the Fire Lands. It is the first time card of the Wheeling and Lake Erie Railroad!"

W. C. Allen exhibited for Caleb J. Jackson, of Norwalk, a copy of resolutions adopted by the House of Representatives of Provincial Congress of Massachusetts Bay, February 13th, 1776, directing the appointment of special commissioners for the public welfare in each town. Also a notice to the people of Tryingham, Mass., to assemble and choose delegates to the Provincial Congress, dated May 30th, 1775. Also an original declaration by the colony of Massachusetts Bay, dated May 23d, 1776, declaring the war on the part of the Colonists as just and necessary, and pledging themselves to each other and the Colony for its maintenance and support, signed by the citizens of Tryingham, thirty-eight in number, and among them Nathan Hale, who afterward, under order from General Washington, entered the British lines, where he was arrested, tried and hung, his last words being, "My only regret is that I have but one life to lose for my country." A picture of the execution of Hale was also exhibited by Mr. Allen. The interesting papers referred to

have long been preserved by the ancestors of Mr. Jackson.

Mr. J. D. Chamberlain, Custodian, had most of the articles of interest on exhibition in cases in front of the Hall, and they were viewed by most of those present. Among the objects of interest were a case of Chinese and Japanese curiosities owned by Rev. Myron Hunt, and also a case owned by W. D. Cleveland, to whom the thanks of the Society are due. A vote of thanks was given to the choir for their music, and also to the citizens of Norwalk for their kind hospitality in entertaining the guests of the Society.

The meeting was then adjourned.

P. N. SCHUYLER, President.

HORATIO BARR, Recording Secretary.

QUARTERLY MEETING.

A Quarterly Meeting of the Society was called to convene at Sage's Grove near Huron, September 6th, 1877, but owing to the inclemency of the weather it was adjourned to the Town Hall at the same place.

MORNING SESSION.

The meeting was called to order at 11 o'clock, Mr. P. N. Schuyler, President, in the chair.

Prayer was offered by Rev. Moses Hamilton, of Bellevue.

The minutes of the twenty-first annual meeting were read and approved.

The roll of officers was called, and the following were found to be present:

President, P. N. Schuyler; Vice Presidents, J. H. Niles, Martin Kellogg and Z. Phillips; Recording Secretary H. Barr, and Directors P. N. Schuyler, Martin Kellogg and C. E. Newman. On motion the meeting adjourned until 1 p. m.

AFTERNOON SESSION.

The meeting was called to order at 2 p. m. by the President, who then gave a sketch of pioneer life, and the origin of the Western Reserve, and the settlement of the country between Huron and Milan.

Mr. F. D. Parrish gave a very interesting account of the first survey of the Western Reserve, comprising 500,000 acres, and of how the first grist mills on said land were built in Berlin in 1810.

Z. Phillips, of Berlin, Dr. Geo. Haskins, Huron, Rev. Moses Hamilton, of Bellevue, Calvin Barnard, Mr. Hill and Burnett Wood, all responded to the call of the President, and gave very interesting sketches of their early days.

Mr. C. E. Newman read an article, "The Spinning Wheel," by F. Tod Ford.

A number of relics were on exhibition, one of them being a copy of the Boston *Gazette and Journal*, published in 1770. It is the property of Mr. James Saunders, of Berlin. A book published in 1680, and a solid silver back comb, made by a blacksmith near Huron in the early days, were brought and exhibited by Dr. Haskins.

Among the pioneers present were: Martin Kellogg, aged 91; Mrs. Mary Pearl, aged 84; F. D. Parrish, aged 81; D. Everett, aged 79; Timothy Lawrence, aged 77; Z. Phillips, aged 73; Calvin Barnard, aged 72; J. T. Reynolds, aged 72; J. H. Thompson, aged 69; J. H. Niles, aged 68; B. B. Wright, aged 84; J. C. Judson, aged 81; J. S. Hotchkiss, aged 79; Burdett Wood, aged 81; N. B. Hoyt, aged 75; Dr. George Haskins, aged 71; Isaac Fowler, aged 72; J. H. Wilson, aged 68; Luke Stow, aged 60; and many others who were entitled to place on the roll of honor.

On motion of Rev. M. Hamilton, a vote of thanks was given to the citizens of Huron for their kind hospitality in entertaining the members of the Society; also to the Huron band for their excellent music.

Adjourned, on motion.

P. N. SCHUYLER, President.

HORATIO BARR, Secretary.

QUARTERLY.

A Quarterly Meeting of the Society was held in the Court House of Sandusky City on the 21st day of December, 1877. The chair on this occasion was occupied by President P. N. Schuyler, and Mr. A. W. Nason,

of Sandusky, was appointed Secretary, *pro tem.*

Hon. Charles Waterbury, also of the latter city, read an ably-written and carefully prepared paper relating to the early settlement of the Peninsula. The Judge gave his hearers a most excellent and interesting account of the trials and hardships of the early settlers, the paper detailing at considerable length many incidents in the lives of the hardy pioneers who sought homes in this then unbroken wild, and who took the initial steps in transforming the country from a wilderness to its present highly civilized state. The paper, in full, will be found in this present volume of the *Pioneer*.

Mr. S. B. Peet, of Ashtabula, Secretary of the State Archæological Society, made some interesting statements in relation to the prehistoric races of Ohio, and gave much valuable information in regard to the Mound Builders, earth works, etc.

Mr. D. C. Richmond gave an account of the tumuli and earth works that he visited in Central Russia and the Crimea, saying that they are very similar to the formations in this State.

Mr. Wells, of Vermillion, aged over ninety years, spoke at some length concerning the early history of the Firelands, and related many amusing and instructive anecdotes in relation thereto.

Those who were present—and there were quite a number of ladies and gentlemen in attendance—evinced much interest in the proceedings.

A limited collection of relics and curiosities on exhibition consisted of a lady's slipper over one hundred years old, a shell used as a dinner horn for over two hundred years, and a number of bones of Indians, which were taken from a mound near Mills' creek.

The meeting adjourned at 4 p. m.

P. N. SCHUYLER, President.

A. W. NASON, Secretary, *pro tem.*

QUARTERLY MEETING.

A Quarterly Meeting of the Society was held in the M. E. Church at Centerton, Huron County, March 27th, 1878. Notwithstanding wet weather, and very unfavorable roads, there was a large attendance, amounting at times to over two hundred persons.

MORNING SESSION.

About 10 o'clock a. m. the meeting was called to order by President P. N. Schuyler, who continued to act as Chairman; and on motion of C. E. Newman, Mr. P. J. Mahon, of Norwalk, was made Secretary, *pro tem.*

The proceedings were begun with prayer by Rev. J. L. Hunter, of Centerton.

Mr. C. E. Newman, of Norwalk, read the minutes of the last quarterly meeting, held at Sandusky, and, no objection being made, the same were approved and ordered on record.

There was no response to the call for Township Committees.

Mr. C. E. Newman then read a report on behalf of the Directors. The account with G. T. Stewart, for printing volumes XI and XII of the *Pioneer*, with sundry charges for postage, binding, etc., showed a total debit of $473.29. The moneys received by sale of volumes, etc., was $359.35, thus leaving at the present date a balance due to Mr. Stewart of $113.94. The Custodian reports the following sets and unbound volumes on hand at this date:

Complete sets, bound,..... 2
Complete sets, unbound,..... 6
Sets, broken,..... 11

(Exceptions from this last figure being 2 Parts 3 and 1 Part 4 of Volume I; 7 Parts 3 and 10 Parts 4 of Volume II.)

Single volumes—

Vol. III..... 21 copies
Vol. IV..... 7 copies
Vol. V..... 21 copies
Vol. VI..... 18 copies
Vol. VII.....101 copies
Vol. VIII..... 3 copies
Vol. IX.....250 copies
Vol. X.....105 copies
Vol. XI.....175 copies
Vol. XII.....320 copies

The report continued to state the canvass

of the territory by Mr. Henry Trauger, and his success in disposing of the volumes by sale.

Mr. Hosea Paul, of Norwalk, on his own account, and Mr. W. W. Williams, of the firm of Williams Brothers, Bellevue, submitted to the meeting propositions for compiling and publishing a History of the Fire Lands, illustrated, on the plan of the county histories published elsewhere by the same parties. Mr. Williams subsequently expressed himself satisfied to retire from the field in favor of Mr. Paul, who had already taken the initiatory steps for his work.

The Chair stated that the Society had itself contemplated publishing a History of the Fire Lands, appointing a special Historian for the purpose. The *Pioneer*, in fact, is a collection of material tributary to that purpose.

Mr. C. E. Newman announced that a new volume of the Fire Lands *Pioneer* would shortly be published, to be ready, if possible, before the next annual meeting.

The Secretary, by request, read obituaries of Henry F. Merry, of Sandusky, aged 66; and of Mrs. E. O. Merry, of Bellevue, aged 65 years.

The President called on the pioneers around for personal reminiscences from the early days of the settlements.

Mr. C. B. Niver, of Norwich; Mr. Sweetland, of Richmond; Messrs. E. C. Lawrence, J. Briggs, William Magee, J. S. Hester, L. D. Burk, J. B. Dawson, and other pioneers responded to the invitation, giving pleasant reminiscences of former times, some of them having been first settlers in their respective townships.

A number of relics and curiosities were next placed on exhibition, and inspected with interest by the pioneers and their friends. Presentations were also made to the Society for its museum, by Mr. J. B. Hoyt, of a one dollar note, issue 1816, of the defunct Owl Creek Bank of Mount Vernon, Knox county; and by Mr. A. Gage, of a piece of timber from Commodore Perry's flag ship "Lawrence," 1813. In the name of the Society, the President thanked the donors.

AFTERNOON SESSION.

In the afternoon a number of new members were enrolled, when on motion, Mr. E. O. Merry, of Bellevue, took the chair.

President Schuyler then paid a feeling tribute to the memory of Mr. John H. Niles, of Norwich, an old and esteemed member of the Society, who had assisted in the preliminaries for this very meeting, but was called to rest in the Lord before the time for its holding.

The following resolutions of respect to his memory, were then put and carried:

Resolved, That with deepest sorrow we have learned of the decease of our dear friend and associate, John H. Niles.

Resolved, That in this event, our Society has lost a long tried, trusted and faithful friend, and the community a highly respected and worthy citizen. Distinguished for his modesty, manly virtues and mental cultivation, for his kindness of heart and affection in social and domestic life, in all his relations as public officer, citizen and friend he performed his part faithfully and well. But while we deplore his loss, we feel a joy and pride in the light of his character which like an oblation of incense shall rest upon and forever embalm his name.

Resolved, That we assure the bereaved family of our heartfelt sympathy for their irreparable loss.

Resolved, That these resolutions be preserved in the records of our Society, and that a copy of the same, signed by the proper officers be presented to the widow and family of the deceased.

The address of the day was next delivered by S. A. Wildman, of Norwalk, his subject being entitled, "The Aboriginal Fire Lands." It was an able and exhaustive paper on the history and tribal characteristics of the chief Indian nations, brought down to the time when they vanished from the region in which the Fire Lands are comprised. At its close Mr. Wildman was heartily applauded, and a resolution of thanks, and that the address should be printed in this volume of the *Pioneer*, was carried unamiously.

A resolution of thanks was next passed to the people of Centerton for their cordial welcome and generous hospitality to the visiting pioneers and their friends.

The hymn, "My Country 'tis of Thee," was sung by the entire assembly, standing.

The meeting then adjouned at 4.15 p. m.

P. N. SCHUYLER, President.

P. J. MAHON, Secretary, *pro tem.*

CENTENNIAL HISTORIC ADDRESS

DELIVERED ON THE FAIR GROUNDS OF THE AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY, NORWALK, SEPTEMBER 28TH, 1876.

BY P. N. SCHUYLER.

LADIES AND GENTLEMEN:—In accordance with the recommendatory resolution of Congress to the people of the Union, that they should cause to be prepared and delivered in each of their several towns and counties a historic sketch of the same on the Centennial anniversary of our National Independence, I received from the Agricultural Society of Huron County an invitation to deliver a Centennial Address, embracing a historic sketch of this county; I also received from the Fire Lands Historical Society a request to deliver on the same occasion a historic account of the Fire Lands. In accordance with these invitations, I have prepared this address. Various causes have deferred its delivery until now.

The extent of the field over which I am to pass in the brief period of a lecture will preclude all philosophic reflection, and confine me to the severe prose of historic narration.

The history of "The Fire Lands" and of this county are, to a great extent, the same. The "Fire Lands" embrace the whole of Huron and Erie counties, as now constituted, exclusive of Kelley's Island, and including the township of Ruggles, now a part of Ashland county, and the township of Danbury, now included in the county of Ottawa. The history of this region, as well as of our entire continent, prior to the period of modern discovery, being a matter of conjecture, will not engage our attention.

What was "the great West," but what has long since lost that appellation and character, viz: the vast tract lying south of the great lakes, and between the Alleghany mountains and the Mississippi river, was for a long time a disputed territory, claimed alike by the French and English Governments. The English based their title on the discoveries by the Cabots in 1497 and 1498, and thereunder claimed to own the Atlantic coast from Newfoundland to Florida, and between those points westward across the continent from ocean to ocean. The French, however, disputed the English title, and asserted in their own behalf the ownership of what are now the British possessions on the Atlantic coast as far north as Labrador, and their claim extended inland so as to embrace the entire valley of the St. Lawrence and of the great lakes, and likewise the whole country drained by the Mississippi and its branches, thus encircling the English territory from the Atlantic westward around to the Gulf of Mexico. In fact, the French claimed all west of the Alleghany mountains.

The French were active and enterprising. They were fishing on the banks of Newfoundland in 1504, and are said to have framed a map of the gulf of St. Lawrence as early as 1506. In 1525 formal possession of the country was taken in the name of the King of France, and in 1534 and 1535 Cartier explored and named the river St.

Lawrence. Port Royal and Quebec are older than any New England town, the former having been founded in 1605, and the latter in 1608; and the French explorers soon pushed their way far into the interior of the continent. The adventures of the French Jesuits and *voyageurs*—those earliest white visitants to our region—form a chapter of novelistic interest, but add few facts of important and substantial history.

The rival claims of France and England to this vast territory were long the source of dissension, and among the causes of several wars between those nations, until the treaty of Paris in 1763, by which France ceded to England all her claims to the Canadas and adjacent provinces. Up to this time the French had, as against the English, held exclusive possession of the entire valleys of the St. Lawrence and the Mississippi. But, notwithstanding the contested character of the British title, the English Government proceeded as though its ownership was unquestionable, and the King, by various patents, from time to time granted to divers persons and companies, by right royal boundaries, tracts and regions, the extent and value of which neither party had any just conception. Thus, in 1578, Sir Humphrey Gilbert received a patent from Queen Elizabeth, by which he was to be lord of any land he might settle with an English colony. He accomplished nothing, but perished at sea. Soon after, in about 1583, Sir Walter Raleigh obtained a grand charter from Elizabeth, under which several attempts at settlement were made, all ending in failure. Thus, from the discovery of the continent, one whole century had passed, and no English settlement established in America.

New charters for settlement, lavish of territory, continued to be granted.

In 1606, James I, to encourage settlement, granted the territory, twelve degrees in extent, from Cape Fear to Halifax, all then called Virginia, to two associations, known as the Western or Plymouth Company, and the London Company. The northern portion, then called North Virginia, was assigned to the former company. It was soon after, upon the exploration of the distinguished Capt. John Smith, called New England. Subsidiary charters, for speculative purposes, had a common abortive result, and no fixed settlement was made in all New England until 1620, when it was effected, under *no charter*, and independent of human license, by that noblest and most heroic of all bands of adventurers, the "Pilgrim Fathers." Kindred spirits soon followed, establishing themselves in divers localities over the vast East; and now was commenced the formative period of American character. But we may not linger.

In 1620, King James issued to forty of the most wealthy and powerful of the English nobility—a body known as "The Council, established at Plymouth," etc.—a most extravagant charter, granting almost unlimited power and more than one million square miles of territory, viz: from the 40th to the 48th degree of north latitude, and extending from the Atlantic to the Pacific Ocean.

In 1628, that portion of the territory covered by the Plymouth patent, and known as Massachusetts, extending from the Atlantic Ocean to the South Sea, was granted to that colony.

In 1630, the Plymouth Council granted to the Earl of Warwick, their President, the southern portion of their territory, called Connecticut, which grant was ratified by the King. The Earl of Warwick, in 1631, granted the same to Lords Say and Seal, and Lord Brook and their associates, who, after a confirmation by Charles II., for the consideration of £16,000 sterling, conveyed it to a voluntary association, called the "Colony of Connecticut." This new company petitioned the Crown for a ratification of their purchase, and also for a charter, and on the 20th of April, 1662, they—John Winthrop and his eighteen associates—were incorporated by King Charles II., as "The Governor and Company of the English Colony of Connecticut."

This was called a "confirmatory charter,"

and under it the Connecticut colony was invested with a clear title to "all that part of "our dominions in New England in America "bounded on the east by Narragansett river, "commonly called Narragansett bay, where "the river falleth into the sea, and on the "north by the line of Massachusetts planta- "tion, and in longitude as the line of Massa- "chusetts colony running east to west—that "is to say, from the said Narragansett Bay on "the east, to the South Sea on the west part, "with all the islands thereto adjoining, &c."

This grant embraced a territory of the width of the State of Connecticut, viz: from 41° to 42° 2′ north latitude, and extending westward from Rhode Island to the Pacific Ocean, an area five times as large as the State of Ohio, and including within its limits a large share of the coal fields of Pennsylvania, the cities of Cleveland, Toledo, Chicago, Omaha, a part of the Salt Lake valley and mines of Nevada and California.

The original grant by King James I. contained certain reservations in favor of the rights of others already in possession, and those sections known as New York and New Jersey were, therefore, not included in the grant. Two years later, viz: on the 12th of March, 1664—Charles II. granted to his brother, the Duke of York, afterwards James II., the whole territory from the Connecticut river to the Delaware, thus including so much of what had already been granted to Winthrop and his associates as lay between the Connecticut river and the eastern boundary of New York as now established. This conflict of charter was long the cause of controversy between the claimants until adjusted as the line now is between those states. Connecticut still claimed the territory lying west of the Delaware river, and between 41° and 42° 2′ north latitude to the Pacific Ocean.

About the year 1752 an association of Connecticut men, known as the Susquehannah Company, purchased the right and title of the colony of Connecticut, between 41° and 42° 2′, beginning ten miles east of the Susquehannah river, and extending west 120 miles. Afterwards, another association of Connecticut men—the Delaware Company, purchased all the right of Connecticut to a tract between these latitudes, and bounded east by the Delaware and west by the land of the Susquehannah Company. In each of these cases the Indian title to the territory had been, by private negotiations, extinguished by the companies. These two tracts were known as the "Wyoming Country."

The Susquehannah Company commenced to survey and settle their tract immediately, and the Delaware Company in 1757. On the tract of the former company, the number of actual settlers in 1762 was 200, and in 1769 they had increased to 1000. The Connecticut emigrants enjoyed exclusive and peaceable possession. Connecticut regarded it as a part of its own dominions, and its legislature in January, 1774, incorporated its settlement into a town, under the name of Westmoreland and annexed it to the county of Litchfield. Suits between parties residing there were brought in the courts sitting in Litchfield county, the sheriff of which and his deputies served process in Westmoreland returnable to said court, where also judgments were rendered, executions issued, &c Representatives from Westmoreland were elected to the Connecticut Legislature, and attended its sessions regularly for eight years. In 1778 its population had increased to 2,300, and it was considered and treated to all intents and purposes as a part of Connecticut.

The grant by Charles II. to William Penn, bears date March 4th, 1681. This was sixty years after the original grant by James I. to the Plymouth Company, and nineteen years after the grant to Connecticut, confirmed by Royal Charter.

After uninterrupted occupation of the premises by the Connecticut Companies and settlers under them for fifteen years, Pennsylvania asserted her claim to this territory.

In 1770 Connecticut took measures to obtain the opinion of able lawyers in England in regard to the legality of her title, and, it being held good, she determined to maintain it. Collisions took place between the two

classes of settlers. The War of the Revolution began soon after the legal advice had been received from England, and the controversy was thereby suspended. In 1781 both States, with the sanction of Congress, agreed upon Commissioners who should settle the question. The Commissioners met in 1781, at Trenton, New Jersey, and decided that the land of right was owned by Pennsylvania.

Connecticut still asserted her title within her latitude to the land west of Pennsylvania.

In May, 1755, the General Assembly of Connecticut, released to Samuel Hazard and his associates, its right and title to all land lying westward, one hundred miles from the west line of Pennsylvania, and extending thence one hundred miles west of the Mississippi river, upon the condition that they should obtain a grant from the king. The consideration and objects were to settle that region, and to civilize and christianize the Indians. This is the first grant from any source which had immediate reference to our particular locality, and did not include the eastern range of townships of what afterwards became the Fire Lands. Hazard died in 1758, without having obtained the royal grant. After his death, his son, Ebenezer Hazard, on the 27th day of May, 1774, presented a petition to the legislature of Connecticut, asking a confirmation to him of the grant to his father. He represented in his memorial that between four and five thousand persons able to bear arms—some of whom were wealthy, and a great number of them of the best character for sobriety and religion, among whom were fifteen ministers of the gospel, and some who bore public offices in Pennsylvania and New Jersey, had agreed to remove with their families and form a colony. The prayer of the petition was refused by both branches of the General Assembly at the same session in which it it was presented.

The fact that the State of Connecticut made simply a quit-claim deed to Samuel Hazard, and its title to depend upon his obtaining a royal charter, is thought by some to afford presumptive proof that she doubted the validity of her title to so much of her grant from Charles II. as was more than one hundred miles west from the west line of Pennsylvania.

At the close of the Revolutionary War, the thirteen Colonies were encumbered with what was to them an enormous debt—the cost of the war—a national debt of thirty-five million dollars. It was claimed that, inasmuch as the war had been prosecuted for the joint benefit of all the States, its results should enure to their common benefit—that the public lands secured by the treaty with England, and not embraced in the immediate limits of the respective States, having been won by the common effort of the people, should be considered as the common and equal property of all the States, from the proceeds of which they should pay the National debt—*for they intended to pay their debts*.

THE WESTERN RESERVE.

In 1784-5, Massachusetts and New York and some other States, upon these principles, at the request of Congress, ceded to the General Government their western lands. Virginia, March 1st, 1784, ceded her right to the northwestern territory to the United States, subject to some reservations of land in Ohio, to enable her to fulfill certain stipulations to her soldiers. On the 13th of September, 1786, in accordance with an act of May of the same year, William Samuel Johnson and Jonathan Sturges, delegates in Congress from Connecticut, ceded to the United States all her land north of the 41st degree of north latitude and 120 miles west of the west line of Pennsylvania, "reserving," however, all east and north of said lines. The tract so "reserved," thence called the "Connecticut Western Reserve," or New Connecticut, is about 68½ miles from north to south along the west line of Pennsylvania, and narrowing as it extends westward, and was estimated to contain three and one-half million acres, but, in fact, embraces only about 3,300,000 acres, in consequence of more than was supposed being covered by the waters of Lake Erie. The west line

just includes Put-in-Bay and the adjacent islands.

All the lands claimed by Connecticut, under the charter from Charles II, west of the Connecticut Western Reserve, were included in that conveyance.

During the Revolutionary War, the British army made incursions into the towns of Greenwich, Norwalk, Fairfield, Danbury, New Haven, and East Haven, New London, Ridgefield and Groton, and did great damage therein by fire and pillage. The losses so sustained were carefully ascertained by a Board of Commissioners, appointed for that purpose by the Connecticut Legislature. The number of sufferers was found to be about 1870, as follows, viz:

Towns.	*No. of Persons.*	*Loss.*
Greenwich....	283	£12,000 os. 8¾d.
Norwalk.....	289	25,889 19s. 2½d.
Fairfield.....	269	34,359 11s. 0 d.
Danbury.....	187	8,238 10s. 7¾d.
New and East Haven.....	410	16,986 5s. 4 d.
New London..	275	54,598 7s. 3½d.
Ridgefield	65	1,736 1s.10 d.
Groton.....	92	7,739 15s. 6 d.
Totals.....	1870	£161,548 11s. 6½d.

Equivalent to $538,495.26.

These losses were in varying sums, from 42 cents up to $9,447.50, and as showing the care with which they were investigated, a few examples may be given, viz:

Loss of Job Ireland, of Greenwich, £0. 4s. 1d.

Loss of Jonah Bulkley, of Fairfield, £0. 6s. 0d.

Loss of Marah Kilby, New Haven, £0. 2s. 6d.

Loss of Benajah Lester, of Groton, £0. 2s. 7d.

Loss of Jeremiah Miller, of New London, £2,535. 18s. 10d.

Nathaniel and Thomas Shaw, New London, £2,834. 5s. 0d.

THE FIRE LANDS.

To make some compensation for these losses, the State of Connecticut, on the 10th of May, 1792, released and quit claimed to said sufferers 500,000 acres for the western part of its lands, reserved as aforesaid, to be divided among them in proportion to their respective losses. This was equal to one acre of land for a loss of about one dollar and eight cents. These lands, so granted, were called "Sufferers' Lands" or "Fire Lands," because the principal losses were by fire. In 1796, the grantees of these lands were incorporated under the name of "The Proprietors of the half million acres of land lying south of Lake Erie."

In 1791, a bill was introduced into the legislature appropriating the proceeds of the Reserve, when the same should be sold, to several ecclesiastical societies, to be applied to the support of their ministers. It did not become a law. But in 1793, an act was passed constituting the avails a permanent fund, the interest to be paid to the ecclesiastical societies of all denominations to be by them applied to the support of their ministers and schools under the direction of the Legislature. This was promptly repealed at the next session.

CONNECTICUT SCHOOL FUND.

In 1795, the State of Connecticut sold the whole Reserve, excepting the Firelands to the "Connecticut Land Company," for $1,200,000, and an act was paseed in May of the same year appropriating the said proceeds for the support of schools, and it has since been known as the School Fund of Connecticut. The interest is annually applied to the support of common schools, and the principal by good management has largely increased.

Up to said last date, the United States had not recognized the ownership of the State of Connecticut to the Western Reserve, and the Indian title was not extinguished to any part thereof. The Indians, under British instigation, were still hostile. England was loth to give up her claim to this western territory. In the negotiations which terminated in the treaty at Paris in 1783, Mr. Oswald, the British Minister, insisted that the Ohio river and a line from its head to Lake Erie, should be the western boundary of the United States.

It is said, some of the American Commissioners, regarding the West as of little value, were willing to concede this demand; but the determined firmness of that indomnitable patriot, John Adams, in opposition, saved the great West to the American Union.

Although by the treaty, all the territory between the Ohio river and the lakes to the Mississippi river was ceded to the United States, still England evinced an intention to evade the treaty and keep possession. She held military occupation of Detroit and Mackinaw and in the Spring of 1794, boldly advanced upon our territory and erected Fort Miami on the bank of the river, just below the present town of Maumee, on the ruins of an old French Fort or trading station, erected in 1680. She also held a trading fort in Ohio City, in all this showing a determination to hold all west of the Cuyahoga.

The battle of Fallen Timbers, by General Wayne, against the combined Indian forces, (at least a dozen tribes,) was gained on the 20th of August, 1794. The treaty of Greenville followed, August 3d, 1795. with eleven tribes, viz: the Wyandots, Delawares, Shawnees, Ottawas, Chippewas, Potawatamies, Miamis, Eel River Weas, Kickapoos, Kiankishaws and Kaskaskias, by which the Indian title was extinguished to at least one-third of the State of Ohio and embracing so much of the Western Reserve as lay east of the Cuyhoga river, and the old Portage path from it to the Tuscarawas. In said treaty, the boundary line was designated as "The general boundary line between the lands of the *United States* and the lands of the said Indian tribes," and no proportionate remuneration was made by the State of Connecticut, or the Connecticut Land Company on account of territory embraced in its provisions. All of the Western Reserve lying west of the Cuyahoga river and Portage path was still Indian territory. It will be noted that, up to this time, the United States had not admitted that the State of Connecticut had any title to any western land. The State of Connecticut, however, not only claimed the fee simple of all the land comprising the "Connecticut Western Reserve," but also the judicial title, with the power to enact laws and exercise all the powers of a State Government therein; therefore, by an act passed October, 1796, the proprietors of the half million acres known as the "Fire Lands" were incorporated into a body politic, with power to appoint officers, administer oaths, appoint agents to levy and collect taxes, and enforce payment of the same by levy on and sale of the rights of the delinquents in lands, etc.

The Probate Courts of Connecticut settled estates upon the Fire Lands, as regularly within their jurisdiction. These laws were enforced for years in Connecticut, notwithstanding the land on which the tax was levied was within the North Western Territory over which the General Government had exercised jurisdiction ever since the cession by Virginia, on March 1st, 1784.

In the Spring of 1796, the Connecticut Land Company sent parties to survey their lands east of the Cuyahoga river into townships, which was done, and a classification and partition by townships also effected; and the next year settlements were commenced in several townships. A controversy was in prospect, between the United States and the State of Connecticut and her grantees, involving the right of civil jurisdiction and the ownership of the soil.

The Congress of the United States begun and holden in Philadelphia, on the 1st Monday of January, 1799, proposed to the State of Connecticut, for the purpose of quieting the grantees and purchasers under said State and confirming their titles to the soil of the Connecticut Western Reserve, to cede to said grantees, the right of soil claimed by the United States, if the State of Connecticut would cede her right of jurisdiction over the same to the United States. Connecticut accepted the proposition, and on the 30th of May, 1800—executed a deed of cession accordingly. But the Indian title was not yet extinguished west of the Cuyahoga river.

THE INDIAN TITLE.

September 20th, 1804, Wm. Dean submitted to the Board of Directors of the Fire Lands Company, a proposition to procure a treaty to be made by and between the United States and the Indian tribes, by which the Indian title in the Fire Lands should be extinguished—he, said Dean, to pay all expenses and Indian presents, &c., and to receive from the Company, when the treaty should be made and ratified by the United States Government, the sum of six cents per acre, for the said half million acres, viz: $30.000.

This proposition was accepted, and, in pursuance thereof, a treaty was made at Fort Industry (Swan Creek), on the Miami of Lake Erie, July 4th, 1805. By this treaty, made by the United States (represented by Charles Jouett) with the Sachems, Chiefs and warriors of the Wyandot, Ottawa, Chippewa, Munsee, Delaware, Shawanee and Potawatomie nations, the Indian title was extinguished to all the lands in the Western Reserve west of the Cuyahoga river, and to some other lands of which the fee was in the United States. Commissioners from the Connecticut Land Company, and the Fire Lands Company were present,—Mr. Henry Champion representing the former, and Mr. Isaac Mills the latter—to assent to the treaty so far as the respective rights of those companies were involved, as to the consideration to be paid to the Indians for extinguishing their titles to the lands; because, as the United States had relinquished their claims to the lands in the Reserve to the grantees of the State of Connecticut, the United States would not defray the expense of extinguishing the Indian title to the lands held by individuals or companies, nor would they allow individuals or companies to treat with the Indians. The amount to be paid by the two companies was $16,000, viz: $4,000 in hand, and $12,000 in annual payments of $2,000 each. The Indians were also in addition to receive a perpetual annuity of $1,000, of which $175 was to be paid by the companies; and for that purpose they secured to the President of the United States the sum of $2,916.67, with interest at 6 per cent.* The proportion paid by each company is not specified in the treaty. This treaty was ratified by Thomas Jefferson, President of the United States, January 25th, 1806.

We have thus traced the chain of title to the Fire Lands through its various claimants and owners, viz:

First—The original proprietors—the Indians, whose title was last extinguished.

Second—The French title, from the times of the Jesuit wanderers, one hundred years before the settlement of New England, to the treaty of Paris in 1763.

Third—The charter of James I., 1606, to the Plymouth Company, embracing a tract extending from the Atlantic to the Pacific Ocean; in which was conveyed what the British Government then did not own, but which conveyance subsequently became good by the English acquisition under the treaty of Paris—on the principle that a conveyance by a grantor without title becomes good by a subsequently acquired title by the grantor.

Fourth—From the Plymouth Company to the Earl of Warwick in 1630, and through the Earl of Warwick in 1631, to Lord Say and Seal, and Lord Brook and their associates in 1631, confirmed by Charles I., and from the latter proprietors to the colony of Connecticut in 1638.

Fifth—By the royal confirmatory charter by Charles II. to the Governor and company of the English colony of Connecticut in 1662.

Sixth—The conveyance by the President of the United States, by authority of Congress, to the State of Connecticut and its grantees, May 13, 1800, in connection with the reciprocal conveyance by the State of Connecticut to the United States.

Seventh—And lastly, with the Indians at Fort Industry, July 4th, 1805.

FIRST JURISDICTION AND SURVEYS.

The first attempt to exercise political

*See Fire Land Records, p. 203-205. See Laws of the U. S., vol. 1, p. 409.

authority and civil jurisdiction over this region was by the colony of Virginia, which, by its House of Burgesses, in 1769, passed an act establishing the county of Botetourt, embracing the entire Northwestern territory, with the Mississippi river as its western boundary.

The great "Ordinance of Freedom," so familiar to all, was passed by Congress, May 13, 1787.

The Legislature of Ohio, April 15, 1803, passed an act to incorporate the owners and proprietors of the half million acres of land lying south of Lake Erie in the county of Trumbull.

The title to their land having been secured and quieted, the company, on the 1st of November, 1805, authorized Taylor Sherman to effect a survey of these lands into townships and sections, and prepare the lands for partition. On the 16th of December, 1805, Taylor Sherman contracted with John McLean and James Clark, of Danbury, Conn., to survey the Fire Lands, by Almon Ruggles or some other competent person. The outlines to be run and fixed, and when the quantity of 500,000 acres was ascertained, the whole tract to be run into townships five miles square, they to be divided into quarter townships; and a specific stipulation was made that all *hills* and *mountains* should be particularly described. The consideration was to be two dollars per mile; and, if the survey should be entirely satisfactory, fifty cents per mile additional to be paid. The work to be done in one year (unless prevented by the Indians,) if the treaty of Fort Industry should be ratified—and we have seen that it was ratified in about six weeks thereafter, viz: January 25. 1806.

But the United States having failed to run the south line of the Reserve west of the Cuyahoga river, the time for finishing the survey was extended to June 1st, 1807. It was agreed between the two companies on the 6th of February, 1806, that the waters of Sandusky Bay should not be deemed a part of the 500,000 acres—the island in the bay to be surveyed. In pursuance of the above, the survey was commenced in the spring of 1806. The south line of the Reserve westward from the Pennsylvania line to the Portage path, fifty miles, had already been run by Mr. Seth Pease, a surveyor in the employ of the United States, and the line westward from that point was now run under his superintendence. Mr. Pease fixed upon the point for the southwest corner of the Fire Lands 120 miles from the Pennsylvania line, and the half million acres was surveyed into townships and quarter townships, the work being completed in about one year from its commencement. The line run by Mr. Pease was on the true course or parallel, but he had made an error in starting, owing to a mistake as to the true locality of the west line of Pennsylvania. He began the line nearly two miles west of the Pennsylvania line, and thus its western terminus and the southwestern corner of the Reserve was fixed nearly two miles too far west. On his return to the East, Mr. Pease discovered the mistake, and the whole work had to be done anew. This being the case, the Directors of the Fire Lands, on the 19th of August, 1807, empowered Isaac Bronson and Isaac Mills to ascertain the true boundary between the sufferers' lands and the lands of the United States, and also the true southwest corner of the Fire Lands; also the dividing line between the sufferers' lands and those of the Connecticut Land company, and cause the same to be established, so as to prevent dispute; and, if they thought proper, they were to cause a re-survey of the lands for partition. Thereupon, on the 14th of March, 1808, a contract was made with Almon Ruggles to survey the half million acres into townships and quarter townships at $3 per mile, and the further sum of $50, to be paid on completion of the work, to pay his expenses home.

In the spring of 1808, the south line of the Reserve, from the Pennsylvania line westward 120 miles, was re-run by the United States Deputy Surveyor Maxfield Ludlow. The course east and west was on the line run by Mr. Pease, and the southwest corner of

the Reserve and of the Fire Lands was established nearly two miles east of the point before fixed by the Pease survey. Almon Ruggles, surveyor, commenced at this point, and run thence east to such point, as he estimated, that a line run thence to the lake, parallel with the west line of Pennsylvania, would cut off from the west end of Reserve just 500.000 acres—a rather difficult problem to determine, considering the irregular lines of the lake and Sandusky Bay. He fixed the southeastern corner of the Fire Lands on the Ludlow line, 28 chains and 68 links west from the 94th mile post from Pennsylvania. The line ran from that point north 4° 40′ west to the lake to a point 43 links east of a black tree, marked J. STOW on the east side and A. R. on the west side, and standing near the bank of the lake, and near the first perpendicular bluff of rocks east of the *Vermillion river*.

On computation of the survey afterwards, it was found that the quantity of land so cut off was 500,027 ACRES!

PARTITION OF LANDS.

September 13th, 1808, the Directors of the Fire Lands Company appointed Joseph Wakeman, Isaac Mills, Taylor Sherman and William Eldridge a committee to devise a mode of partition of the lands among the proprietors. This committee, on the 8th of November following, reported that Ruggles had completed the survey, and they also presented a plan for the partition of the lands, which plan was adopted, and partition was made in accordance therewith November 9th, 1808. The half million acres were divided into five ranges of townships, thirty townships in all. The ranges run from south to north, viz: From the south boundary to the lake—the townships to be equal in size—exactly five miles each, from north to south; but inasmuch as the width of the Fire Lands from east to west is 26 miles, less 28 chains and 68 links, the width of the ranges respectively, and, therefore, of the townships from east to west is a little more than five miles. These ranges of townships are the five westernmost ones of the Western Reserve, viz: Nos. 20, 21, 22, 23 and 24, counting westward. The townships in each range are numbered from south to north. The general plan had to be varied a little in the northern part, owing to the irregular shore lines of the lake and Sandusky bay. The three easternmost ranges each contained five townships, and a fraction next the lake. This fraction in the three ranges north of towns Nos. 5, was formed into two townships, viz: Vermillion and Huron. The 23d range contained six townships, and a fraction of 2,783 acres next the lake and bay, which fraction, for the purpose of equalizing values, was annexed to section 4 of township No. 1 of same range (New Haven), and to sections 1 and 4 of township No. 1—Cannon (now Richmond)—of the 24th range. Range 24th contained six townships, and a fraction next south of Sandusky bay of 3,268 acres, which fraction was annexed to sections 1, 3 and 4 of township No. 6—Patterson (now Margaretta)—of the same range. The land north of the bay, together with the island in the bay, viz: Bull's (now Johnson's Island), formed the seventh township of the 24th range.

The mode of partition was rather complicated and ingenious, but fair. The thirty townships, with four sections each, made 120 sections. The whole amount of losses of the sufferers was divided into 120 equal divisions or classifications, of £1,344 7s. each. There were, therefore, 120 tickets prepared, each having a list or specification of losses to the amount of £1,344 7s. These tickets were rolled up separately, so that it could not be known whose particular losses were therein specified; and these tickets, thus rolled up, were at random taken in fours, and marked 1, 2, 3 and 4, respectively, and the four rolled into one package, making in all 30 packages, corresponding to the number of the townships. The 30 township tickets were put into a box by themselves; the 30 packages of classifications were put into another box, and then some disinterested person drew indifferently from the box one of the township tickets, which was then opened and

read; then another disinterested person, in like manner, drew from the other box a package of said classification, viz; Four section tickets, which were opened and read; and thus each proprietor learned at once the township, and section of the same, in which his land was located.

Kelley's Island, formerly known as Cunningham's Island is not a part of the Fire Lands, but its intimate relations with Erie county, of which it is a part, will justify a moment's digression. It will be remembered that the Connecticut Land Company purchased the whole Western Reserve, excepting the Fire Lands. They owned their lands as tenants in common, and divided the same by lot among their several members, the portions being drawn by townships. An average valuation of the townships was agreed upon, and when any township below the average was drawn, other lands—fractional parts of townships and odd tracts were added to equalize the value. When township No. 5, of range 18, (now Carlisle—next township south of Elyria) was drawn, it being below the average, Island No. 6, (Cunningham's Island) was attached to it to make it equal to the average. It seems to have been considered as of not much value, and was not regularly surveyed until A. D. 1819, when it was divided *pro rata* among the owners of said township, No. 5, and Mr. Kelley afterwards obtained his title through them. (See Historical Sketch of Kelley's Island, in Vol. 4, Fire Lands Pioneer, p. 30.)

Trumbull County was established by the territorial government of Ohio, December 6th, 1800. It included the whole Western Reserve. Prior to that time, so much of the Reserve as lies east of the Cuyahoga river and Portage path, was included in Washington county, established July 26th, 1788; and that part of the Reserve west of said line constituted a part of Wayne county, from its establishment by Governor St. Clair, August 15th, 1796.

Geauga County was erected by an act passed December 31st, 1805, by which and subsequent acts it is supposed that a part of the Fire Lands was included in its limits.

Portage County was formed from Trumbull county, February 10th, 1807, and that portion of the Reserve west of the Cuyahoga river, and south of township No. 5, was included in Portage county for judicial purposes.

HURON COUNTY.

Huron County was created by the act of February 7th, 1809, and included all the Fire Lands, to be organized when the Legislature should deem proper; but, for the time, to remain as it then was attached to Portage and Geauga for judicial purposes.

By the same act, Almon Ruggles was appointed Recorder of Huron county, and to continue such until the county should be organized; and the Recorders of Geauga and Trumbull counties were to deliver to him all books and records relating to the county of Huron.

January 16th, 1810, Cuyahoga county was organized, and Huron county attached to it for judicial purposes.

January 22d, 1811, the eastern boundary of Huron county was changed so as to extend from the northeast corner of town 4, of the 20th range, to southwest corner of town 5, of the 16th range, thence west to the middle of Black river, and thence down the middle of that river to Lake Erie.

January 29, 1811, the Legislature appointed Ephriam Quinby, of Trumbull, Solomon Griswold, of Ashtabula, and Joseph Clark, of Geauga, Commissioners, to fix the seat of justice of Huron county. They located the same on the farm of Daniel Abbott, Esq., in the township of Avery—now Milan, and made report thereof as required by the law to the Court of Common Pleas of Cuyahoga County.

January 31, 1811, an act was passed fully organizing Huron county; but the war with England occurring deferred the organization.

FIRST WHITE SETTLERS.

It is difficult, in fact impossible, to fix the date of the first residence of a white man on the Fire Lands. The French were traders

at Sandusky in 1708, and twenty years later had a trading post and stockade on the bay, its precise site is unknown, nor whether it was on the Peninsula or main land. The French had a monopoly of the trade until 1744, by which time they had formed a small settlement there. In that year, through English intrigue, the Wyandots fell upon them, captured their fort, robbed them and killed five of their number; the rest escaped to Detroit. In 1749 peace was concluded between the French and the Wyandots, and the French traders were again in Sandusky; they also had a post at the mouth of Huron river about the same time. Both of these posts were abandoned before the Revolution. (See address by Hon. Joseph M. Root, published in Fire Lands Pioneer, Vol. 4, p. 21.) A small body of Moravian Indians, refugees from the Moravian settlement on the Muskingum, were established on the bank of Huron river near the north line of Milan township in 1789. Their village was called New Salem and they were under the instruc- of that zealous missionary and Christian, Zeisberger. The persecution of the pagan Indians soon drove them away to Canada. It was some of them, probably, who with the missionary Dencke returned, and built a village on the site of the present town of Milan, in 1804. They left in 1809, upon the commencement of the immigration from New England.—(See address by Hon. E. Lane, published in Fire Lands Pioneer, Vol. 3, p. 54.)

Settlements were made almost simultaneously in several townships immediately after the partition of the lands among the proprietors. Several persons indeed arrived before the distribution, which was, as before stated, in November, 1808.

I quote several items of interest from memoranda by *Wm. W. Pollock*, late of Ridgefield, this county, who was well known by many here and whose statements are good authority. Mr. Pollock, says:—(See Fire Lands Pioneer, Vol. 1, No. 1, p. 43.)

"I arrived in Huron, (near the mouth of "Huron river,) in May, 1808. But two "families were then there, viz: Stephen "Downing and Hawley Tanner. There were "a few French families from Montreal. "Milan was then inhabited by Indians, called "Moravians. Among them was a white "man, a missionary, with his wife. His "name was Dankay. Portions of other "tribes, Miamis, Tawas, Chippewas and "Senecas were scattered through the coun- "try." "I came with my father and Jared "Ward. In June, of the same year, Jabez "Wright arrived, and Almon Ruggles, "Simeon Hoyt and Sewell Keese came soon "after. Most of them were from Connecti- "cut. Ward settled on land now known as "the Hathaway farm, my father one mile "north of him, and Wright one mile still "below; all on the west side of the river. "Ruggles built the first log house, it stood "on the east side of the river, about two "miles from the lake, and was his home "while surveying. Wright built the first "brick house, one mile west of the mouth "of Huron river, on the lake shore.

"The first couple married, were John "Flemman, (John B. Fleming,) and Eliza- "beth Pollock.

SUNDRY BEGINNINGS.

The first white child born on the Fire Lands was probably F. F. Smith afterwards Sheriff of Erie county.

"The first grist mill was built on Old "Woman's creek, near the Otis farm, in "Eldridge, now Berlin. It was finished in "December, 1810. Before this, every man "had a samp mill at his door, and had to "pound his corn before breakfast. Our food "was principally venison, corn bread and "catfish.

"First Postmaster, Almon Ruggles, the "office kept by J. B. Fleming, clerk.

"The first mail route was from Cleveland "to Detroit, along the lake shore—mail car- "ried on horseback.

"The first school was opened in Huron in "1810; the winter term taught by Rev. "Alvin Coe, the summer term by Miss "Tamar Ruggles, afterwards the wife of "Jabez Wright.

"Rev. Alvin Coe opened and closed his school with prayer, and preached in the school house on Sabbath."

LIFE OF THE PIONEERS.

The settlers brought with them the New England character; and so soon as their numbers would enable them to do so, they opened schools and churches. The population was very sparse up to the commencement of the war with England, and upon its occurrence many sought safety by returning eastward, or going south to the central portions of the State. Some few, however, remained, erecting here and there a stockade or block-house for their mutual protection, and had to be constantly on the alert to guard against surprise from the lurking savages. The Indians were troublesome even before the breaking out of hostilities. In the spring of 1812 two white men, Michael Gibbs and —— Buel, were murdered at Pipe Creek, near Sandusky, by two Indians, Semo and Omick. Omick was tried in the Supreme Court of Cuyahoga county and found guilty, and was executed at Cleveland, June 29, 1812. Semo was captured, but killed himself to avoid punishment by the whites.

THE WAR OF 1812.

Upon the surrender, by Hull, of our northwestern army at Detroit, General Elijah Wadsworth, commanding the Fourth division of Ohio militia, ordered out a sufficient body of men to protect the frontier. He first took position at Cleveland, and directed Brigadier General Simon Perkins to advance with a body of troops to Huron county for its protection. Three companies crossed the Cuyahoga on the 28th and 29th of August, and on the 30th Gen. Perkins followed with the main body. The first encampment in Huron county was on the lake shore, on the farm of Stephen Meeker; but, owing to its exposed situation, they soon removed up the river and established Camp Avery, on the farm of Ebenezer Merry, above David Abbott's, on the east side of the river.

On the 28th of September, Capt. Joshua Cotton was detached, with about seventy men, to look after some property at what was called Two Harbors, on the west side of the Peninsula, and also to observe, and perhaps attack a party of Indians who were reported to be there. He effected a landing opposite Cedar Point on the 29th, and cautiously proceeded to Two Harbors. No Indians were to be seen, though abundant evidences showed that they had been there very recently. The property was secured, and Capt. Colton was on his return, when suddenly his force was fired on by the stealthy savages. The action lasted but a short time, when the enemy retired, and our party resumed its march for its point of landing, but, before arriving there, they were again suddenly attacked by the Indians. After a few minutes firing, the enemy seemed to have retired, and Capt. Cotton retreated to a log house on a spot of cleared land. The Indians again pursued. Cotton, from the log house, held them in check, and they finally withdrew. About one-third of his force, with Capt. Cotton, took shelter in the log house; and the balance, unperceived, it would seem, by the foe, passed on and reached the landing. That evening they crossed to Cedar Point, and by the next morning word was got to Camp Avery of the situation. A small party was immediately sent to their relief, and the next day, October 1st, Cotton and the balance of his men were brought to the east side of the bay. Our loss in this affair was reported at six killed and ten wounded. That of the Indians was unknown, but said to be very severe. See "Remembrances of War of 1812," by Hon. J. R. Giddings, vol. 1, No. 4, *Fire Lands Pioneer*. One or two other whites were killed during the war by the Indians on the Peninsula. In November, 1812, a scout named Seymour, while engaged in cutting a "bee tree" on the west bank of Huron river, two or three miles above Milan, was killed by these prowlers, and a boy, Pixley, who was with him, was taken prisoner and carried to Detroit, and there sold. He returned after the war. In June, 1813, the Indians made an onslaught at Cold Creek, killing five persons, and carrying off eight prisoners. Three of the prisoners were retaken in the fall of the same year.

Upon the close of hostilities, those who had been dispersed quickly returned; others also came, and the population was soon considerably increased. This increase, however, was somewhat retarded by the fact that lands were held at a higher price than those sold by the Government in the adjoining counties west and south.

January 31st, 1815, a further act was passed to complete the organization of Huron county, the election of county and township officers to be held on the first Monday of April following.

ADVENT OF LAW AND JUSTICE.

The first Court of Common Pleas of Huron county was held at the county seat in Avery (commencing on October 24th, 1815,) by George Tod, presiding Judge, and Jabez Wright, Stephen Meeker and Joseph Strong, his associates. David Abbott, Clerk, Lyman Farwell, Sheriff, and F. W. Fowler, his deputy. Court was held in the log school house. The jail was a small room built of logs, and attached to the log cabin of the deputy sheriff; and these buildings, with the log residence of Squire Abbott, comprised the whole town. One prisoner only—a young woman—was in jail. The Grand Jury were duly sworn and charged, and, in care of the deputy sheriff, sent out to deliberate. Having no other room, the deputy removed his prisoner from the jail and installed the Grand Jury therein. He then left them, with the remark that he would speedily return and be at their service. He soon came back, and found that the Grand Jury had given "leg bail" and escaped to parts unknown. They were heard of no more; and the Sheriff was soon afterwards ordered to discharge his prisoner.

Ebenezer Lane, Elisha Whittlesey and others, who afterwards became distinguished lawyers, were present.

COUNTY SEAT FIXED.

In compliance with a request of citizens of Huron county, the Legislature, on the 26th of January, 1818, appointed Abraham Tappen, of Geanga county, William Wetmore, of Portage, and Elias Lee, of Cuyahoga, Commissioners to view the then county seat and other proposed sites, and upon consideration of the necessity, propriety, etc., to establish the county seat where they should deem best. They removed it from Avery to Norwalk, where it has ever since remained.

The first session of the Common Pleas in Norwalk was held on the third Tuesday of October, 1818, George Tod, presiding Judge, with Jabez Wright, Stephen Meeker and Ezra Sprague, associate judges. On the second day of the term James Williams was appointed clerk.

In the spring of 1816 two white men, John Wood, of Venice, and George Bishop, of Danbury, trappers, were murdered near Two Harbors by three straggling Ottawa Indians. The murderers were arrested, and were tried in Norwalk. One of the three, a boy, having acted under compulsion, was discharged. The other two were found guilty, and were hung in Norwalk in June, 1819.

January 21st, 1824, Lorain county was organized by act of the Legislature, and Huron county reduced to the limits of the Fire Lands.

TIMES THAT TRIED MEN'S SOULS.

We do not at all appreciate, we can hardly conceive, the inconvenience, the want, the suffering, the "hard times" of the early settlers. Sickness added greatly to their hardships. Ague, "chill fever," and other malarial diseases incident to the opening of a new country, were prevalent. Sometimes whole families were prostrated, and often scarcely enough remained in health to take care of the sick. Wild animals were annoying. Wolves, bears and foxes endangered their sheep, pigs and poultry, and deer, raccoon and wild turkeys damaged their crops. No roads, no mills, no markets, and very scanty supplies at high prices of those articles of necessity which had to be obtained from the East. Skins, furs and articles of food, from the necessity of the case, were used as legal tender. In fact, such was an early territorial law of Ohio. In 1792 a law was adopted regulating the fees of civil

officers, in which was this provision, "That whereas a dollar varies in value in the several counties of the territory, some provision in kind ought to be made; therefore, be it enacted that for every cent allowed by this act, a quart of Indian corn may be demanded and taken by the person to whom the fee is coming as an equivalent for a cent, and at the same rate for a greater or less sum. (See Territorial Laws, cap. 24. Taxes were not high, but it was difficult to pay them. Farm products brought but little return to labor. No markets. *No markets.* In illustaation, I may be permitted to give an instance: Mr. Samuel B. Lewis, recently deceased—one of the very early settlers of Norwalk township, and well known to many here as a man of entire reliability—told me that in those early days he hauled from Norwalk to the mouth of the Huron a load of wheat. It took him two days to perform the trip with his ox team, and he sold the whole load for *one barrel of salt.*

TRANSPORTATION ACCOMPLISHED.

The opening of the New York and Erie canal, October 25th, 1825, was an important era. Cannon answered cannon from Buffalo to Montauk Point in honor of the event, and the "great West," was even more jubilant. Thenceforth this was a country, and actually connected with the civilized world. Public and private enterprise was thereby greatly quickened, and plans of improvement were entered upon with zeal and energy. Lands increased in value, towns sprang up, and young cities (at least on paper) began to develop, as if by magic—sometimes it requiring a magic lantern to find them. Such was then the West, in which the Fire Lands had their place.

The Milan Canal Company was incorporated by act of the Legislature January 24, 1827. The company was organized August 27, 1831, work commenced the next year, and the canal was completed in 1839. The first vessel came into port on the morning of July 4th, 1839, amid great festivities by the people. Milan was now a sea-port, and soon had a flourishing trade. As many as 365 teams, with produce, were seen in its streets, bringing to its wharves over eighteen thousand bushels of wheat in a single day. From 1845 to 1850 the exports of Milan were in value about $1,000,000 per annum. The subsequent opening of the railway lines destroyed its business, and the failure of its supply of water dried up the canal itself.

The Monroeville and Sandusky City Railroad Company was incorporrtèd March 9th, 1835, capital $50.000. The road was completed and thé cars were running in 1839, "strap rail," cars drawn by horse power. The Mad River and Lake Erie Railroad was completed from Sandusky City to Bellevue a little later in the same year (1839), with strap rail and locomotive. In 1855 this line was taken up and laid by way of Castalia and Clyde.

ERIE COUNTY.

Erie county was organized by act of March 16, 1838, and was made to embrace so much of the Western Reserve as lies west of range 22 and north of an east and west line drawn one mile north of the south lines of Groton and Oxford townships, and including, also, from Sandusky county, the township of Portage, and the small tract lying between Townsend township and Sandusky bay.

By the act of March 6th, 1840. to erect the county of Ottawa and enlarge the county of Erie, the township of Danbury and the Bass Islands were transferred to Ottawa county, and Erie county was enlarged so as to embrace all the Fire Lands, except Danbury, north of the north line of towns No. 4. The limits of Huron county were still further reduced by the transfer of Ruggles township to Ashland county, by the act of February 24th, 1846, erecting said county of Ashland.

The first religious organization on the Fire Lands was the Presbyterian Church of Lynn, on Strong's Ridge, organized July 15th, 1817, and the first two Sunday Schools were opened in the spring of 1818, one at Florence, by Miss Abby Harris, who was principal teacher, and one in connection with said Presbyterian Church at Lynn. The latter

school has been kept up continuously, and is now one of the best on the Fire Lands.

The opening in 1852 of the two lines of railway now known as the northern and southern divisions of Lake Shore and Michigan Southern Railway, and also, at a little earlier date, of the C., C. & C. R. R., and which, with our lake ports, afforded first-class commercial facilities, gave a new impetus to business and industry.

For the last twenty-four years no new and especially important event peculiar to this region has occurred; but, in common with our State at large, it has enjoyed an almost uninterrupted prosperity until now, when we feel a pride in the assurance that no more prosperous, no more intelligent, no more happy people exist on the face of the globe than the inhabitants of the Fire Lands.

FIGURES OF GROWTH.

I may not detain you, but will hazard a brief comparison.

The population of Huron county was, in 1820, 6,675; 1830, 13,341; 1840, 23,933; 1850, 26,203; 1860, 29,616; 1870, 28,532.

The population of Erie county was, in 1840, 12,599; 1850, 18,568; 1860, 24,474; 1870, 28,188.

The present population of the entire Fire Lands is about 70,000.

The total value of property on the grand duplicates of Huron and Erie counties in 1876: Huron county, $18,328,550, and in Erie county, $12,165,240. The whole amount of taxes assed in Huron county in 1876 was $257,641.02, and in Erie county, $288,327.30. Paid in 1875 for school purposes in Huron county, $71,238.52; in Erie county, $69,377.89. Total tax paid by the Fire Lands 1875, $624,985.50.

The above figures include Kelley's Island, but do not include the townships of Danbury and Ruggles.

As an item of historic interest, and as showing the comparative wealth of the townships, I copy an official table showing the "Total amount of taxes in Huron county in 1821, on *personal and village property*:"

Huron township	$ 25	00
New Jerusalem (town plat)		77½
Milan	54	00
Beatty (town plat)	41	82
Huron " "	3	10
Vermillion	38	60
Perkins	38	90
City of Sandusky	221	19
Margaretta	18	00
Venice	27	20½
Oxford	70	10½
Ridgefield	29	40
Monroe	9	39
Sherman	11	50
Peru	19	85
Macksville	1	90
Greenfield	32	80
Florence	33	90
Clarksfield	11	70
Townsend	9	90
Fitchville	13	60
Black River	32	50
Brownhelm	16	00
Elyria	23	85
Danbury	18	10
Norwalk	56	90
Norwalk (town plat)	62	48
Hew Haven	33	40
New Haven (town plat)	13	55½
Lynn	40	80
New London	14	68
Eldridge	31	35
	$1,056	25½
Add to Sandusky City	8	65
East half of Venice	13	09
Total amount	$1,078	00
Amount of deductions, as per return of Ezra Sprague	304	52
Amount to be paid to Treasurer.	$ 773	48
Total land tax of Huron county in 1821, was	$7,831	68.8
Total personal and other tax	773	48
Grand total tax of 1821	$8,605	10.8

Compared with our times these figures are of the "days of small things." Since the or-

ganization of our county, our population has increased about one-hundred fold! Pretty conclusive evidence of progress! But our advancement in the comforts and luxuries of life shows an equally wide contrast. Look around you. Look at one another. See your rich apparel. See the costly carriages by which you have come to this grand carnival. See yonder stalls filled with your pride of the pastures and of the fold, and blazing with scutcheons of heraldric lore as to quality and strain. See those countless trophies from the garden, the orchard, and the farm, the product of cultured soil by cultured mind—your proud display of implements and machinery of wondrous skill, and adapted "to every purpose under heaven." Hark! that silver music that floats about your halls of art and beauty—and look within—a fairy scene glowing on every side with those marvels of handicraft, of genius and of skill. But I may not indulge in desultory remark or general reflections, lest lured by the attractions around me, I forget what you will not, that time is passing.

THE AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY.

Thanks to the Agricultural Society of Huron county for this creditable and successful exhibition. The Society is now in full and vigorous life. This is its twenty-second annual exhibit under its present organization, and the fourth held on these ample grounds, now permanently secured to its use and already made attractive by decoration and substantial improvement. Its able Board of Directors assure its future success and for its present prosperity thanks are due to them and to their efficient officers, I. N. Bostwick, President, and L. C. Laylin, Secretary.

Of our public institutions, religious, literary and benevolent, and our free public schools, all these, the highest pride, adornment, and blessing of our people, I may not take time to speak.

THE HISTORICAL SOCIETY.

The first meeting, preliminary to the organization of the Fire Lands Historical Society, was held at the Court House, in Norwalk, May 20th, 1857. But few were there, I think only Platt Benedict, Reverend Alfred Betts, Philo Wells, Philo Adams, Seth A. Adams, Horace Hall, and myself—and perhaps Judge Harvey Fowler. Platt Benedict was chairman and I, being much the youngest person present, was selected secretary. An adjournment was taken till the 17th of June—the anniversary of the battle of Bunker Hill—when a constitution was adopted and the organization completed. Platt Benedict was elected President, which office he held till his death on the 25th of October, 1866. At the annual meeting in 1867, Judge Zalmuna Phillips was chosen President, and he continued to hold the office till the annual meeting in 1875, when he declined a re-election and your present presiding officer was chosen. This is the twentieth year of our Society. Our annual and quarterly meetings and our publications have been well sustained. But our work is not yet done. Our history is incomplete. Let me bespeak for our historical magazine, the Pioneer, a more general support. It should be in every house. It is filled with varied and instructive matter, incidents of early life, amusing and ludicrous, of joy and sadness, of toil and suffering and fortitude, hope and heroism, and energetic life and action.

Pioneers of the Fire Lands, I greet you hail and welcome to this happy re-union. With your presence we feel assurance of title to this goodly land.

But, oh! how thinned are your ranks! decimated almost by each succeeding year. O, how many of your revered compatriots have gone to their reward. Your lives and deeds are our history. We will not recall the sombre past—those long "Nights of toil and days of danger." We thank you for your labor and your example. May the sunlight rest gently on your declining years, and God's benison be on you, and upon us all till safe we meet beyond the flood in the grand and final re-union of "the better land."

CENTENNIAL THOUGHTS.

Mr. President and my fellow citizens, as in the experiences of life we sometimes approach events to which we have long looked with

hope, with animation, with repressed yet ever springing joy, but when the hour of completion or fulfillment has arrived we shrink from the realization, so now in this glad hour—in this grand hour of our nation's life and glory, and while our bosoms swell with irrepressive emotion at this crowning moment, we draw back with instinctive trepidation, and bow, as in the presence of the Infinite, hardly daring to contemplate the true realization of this centennial hour. We stand, as it were, as the congress of the ages and look out upon the panorama of the past and of the present, and, as we follow the long march of time, our interest constantly deepens while we note the caprice of events, as we see the ever-assailing dangers to human progress—the evanescent character of national position and power, and the sad mutability of human affairs. Yet following the ever shifting course of the tide of human events we are enabled in the light of history, by the deductions of philosophy, to see that not all is accident, but that rather all is in accordance with certain grand principles and truths which rule in the moral and political world as surely and as firmly as the laws of dynamics in the material universe. In this is our assurance and our trust. Our Republic is not an accident. It is the evolution of the ages, and thus we are better able to appreciate the springs and causes which induced the planting upon our shores the tree of political life—the tree of Liberty. The human mind by the discipline of time was just arriving at a clear knowledge, not merely of human duties, but also of human rights. It was by a common impulse, not blind or instinctive, but the resultant of God's providences and of his dealings with the human soul—the divinity within them, that brought first to these shores the Huguenots, the Catholics, the Quakers, the Puritans and, with more veneration even would we speak it, which caused the sacred Pilgrim Fathers, those earliest pioneers, to enkindle upon their altar the celestial fire struck from the rock of Plymouth in the winter frosts of 1620; O! how our hearts go back to those noble men, those "sainted forms," who dared and did so much for us, and for the future. The vogage of the May Flower in all its aspects has no equal in all the range of fact or fancy. The Argo cruised for greed and glory, sowing dragons teeth and death to the end she might seize the "golden fleece." The May Flower sought not sordid wealth; she bore a richer freight than gold or rubies. Jason and his heroes are the creation of genius—*ignus fatui*—faintly gleaming in the misty horizon of the poetic past. The Pilgrims grow more distinct and ennobled by the advance of time. Not Castor and Pollux, but the genius which created them, still scintillate in the skies of night. Brewster, Carver, Bradley and their associates, have become stars in God's own firmament, from whose clear light the moral and political navigator may make his reckoning and direct his course.

Plymouth rock is the corner stone of our *free republic*. The principles enunciated and springing thence are the grand *primum mobile*, which brought the present. A pride—a pride in and thanks to our early ancestry—to the glorious patriots of one hundred years ago—to the worthy sons of worthy sires, who with unfaltering step have safely borne forward and delivered to us the sacred ark of the covenant, with all its holy treasure of religious and civil liberty! Let us in their spirit accept the trust, and now, in this solemn Centennial hour, in the presence of the Infinite Majesty, firmly, calmly, pledge our fealty and our faith—unwavering fidelity to the duties resting upon us, in unfaltering faith—the sublime faith of our fathers—*qui transtulit sustinet*.

Sandusky City, Its Settlement and Growth.

ADDRESS BEFORE THE FIRE LANDS HISTORICAL SOCIETY, JUNE 30TH, 1877.

BY HON. A. W. HENDRY, OF SANDUSKY.

As early as 1744, Charleyvoix, in his history of New France, gives the origin of the name of Sandusky as "Chinouski," and John Johnson, formerly Indian agent in Ohio, in his vocabulary of Wyandot words, gives the name of Sandusky river as "Sandustee," or "Water within water pools."

ITS FIRST SETTLER.

From the earliest knowledge of this excellent harbor, the place was undoubtedly looked upon as a most favorable point on the lake to become the commercial depot of the southern and western country. In 1810, John Garrison erected the first log cabin where Sandusky is now built; it was located on Water street, between Columbus Avenue and Wayne street. This house was twenty feet square, with a store attached ten feet square. His trade was principally with the Indians, as he had no neighbors within ten miles except Jonas and Michael Gibbs, from Vermont, who had settled near Pipe Creek. John Garrison was the first white settler, and may well be termed the "pioneer." He, with his family, came from the State of New York. Sandusky was at this time known as "Ogontz Place," so named after an Indian chief of the Ottawa tribe, educated and sent here by some missionary society in Canada. In 1812 Michael Gibbs and a man named Buell, living about one mile from the bay shore, about where the Lockwood stone quarry now is, were brutally murdered by the Indians. I was ascertained that this crime was committed by two Indians, one by the name of Omeek and another called Semo. Omeek was arrested, taken to Cleveland, tried, found guilty and executed. Semo was arrested, and, knowing the fate of Omeek at Cleveland, seized a gun, placed the muzzle of it at his head, and with his toe fired it off, the charge entering his head, producing instant death. On the 18th day of June, 1812, war was formerly declared by the United States against Great Britain. In August following General Hull surrendered Detroit to the British, and from that time until Perry's victory, on the 10th of September, 1813, the inhabitants along the shore of the Lake were in constant apprehension for their personal safety.

The fall of the forest tree, the moaning of the winds, the discharge of the hunter's rifle, alike startled the inhabitants, the wife and mother trembled for her absent husband or her still more defenceless little ones.

OGONTZ PLACE.

Between the years of 1811 and 1816, Ogontz Place was far from being prosperous. Hon. Z. Wildman, of Danbury, Connecticut, claiming to own a greater part of what was known, from 1812, as the city tract, still thought that it must become a place of importance, and that eventually business and

capital would largely concentrate here. In the year 1816. Mr. Wildman laid out the town, and gave it the name of Portland, and erected the first frame building, which was completed in the summer of 1817, and was long known as the Old White Store, and occupied a portion of the ground covered by the east end of Reber Block, on Water street; directly back of this store, in the same year, Mr. Wildman built the first dock to accommodate the lake commerce. In 1818 or 19, Moors Farwell and L. Farwell built the dock now occupied by Marsh & Co.'s plaster mill. In the year 1818, Mr. Wildman and the Hon. Isaac Mills, of New Haven, Connecticut, owning together the entire plat and much of the adjacent land, came to an agreement, whereby the whole was laid off into lots, and the boundaries of the city were fixed as follows: On the west by Shelby street, on the east by Meigs street, and on the south by Monroe street, to which they gave the name of Sandusky City. In 1827 the Fractional township was detached from Perkins township, made a separate township and called Portland, and retained that name down to 1872, when the entire township of Portland was annexed to the city. In the year 1805 the Indian title to the western part of the Connecticut Western Reserve was extinguished by a treaty made with them at Fort Industry, on the Miami of the Lakes, as the Maumee river was then called, and the east line of the Indian Territory was established on the west line of the Reserve.

THE PIONEER BUILDINGS.

Soon after the conclusion of this treaty, settlements commenced on what is known as the Fire Lands. As early as 1790, those devoted missionaries, the Moravians, made a settlement, which they called New Salem, about two miles below Milan, on the west side of the Huron river. They afterwards settled at Milan. The house of the early settlers was the ordinary log cabin. Others, of a migratory or wandering character, built a more temporary structure, the bark hut. The log cabin was finished complete for occupancy without the aid of the carpenter, joiner or mason. The roof was put on with "shakes," a kind of shingle rived from the oak, about the length and thickness of a barrel stave, and from four to six inches in width. These rested upon poles, which took the place of rafters, and overlapped somewhat after the manner of ordinary shingles. No nails were used to secure the shingle in place, but heavy poles were laid across each tier to secure them in position. Stone was used for fire place and hearth, if near at hand, if not, earth or clay was substituted, marble mantles and grates not having come into use. The stick chimney, made of flat pieces, about the width and thickness of lath, were laid flat and built up on the outside of the building to the required height, after the style of a boy's cob house, and with clay for mortar, plastered on the inside. This, with a tramel or crane on which to hang the kettles, for boiling and cooking, constituted the heating and culinary department of every well regulated household. The one room was made to do duty as kitchen, parlor, sitting-room, dining and sleeping room. The arbitrary rule appropriating each room in the house to separate and distinct purposes was not followed by the early settlers.

Among the early settlers the rich and the poor dressed alike. The men were often attired in hunting shirts and buckskin pants, and the women in coarse fabrics produced by their own hands; such was their common and holiday dress. If one of the fair ones wished for a superb dress for her bridal day, her highest aspiration was to obtain a common American check, then costing one dollar per yard, and five yards being regarded an ample pattern.

The log cabins of the early settlers were furnished in the same style of simplicity. Bedsteads were home made, arranged by boring into the logs of the house and inserting cross pieces into a single log or post, and over these pieces was wound the bark cord.

One pot, kettle and frying pan were the only articles considered indispensable as an outfit for housekeeping, though some included

a tea-kettle. A few plates and dishes in one corner on a shelf was as satisfactory as a well filled China closet at the present day, and their food relished well from a puncheon table. Some of the wealthier families would have a few splint bottom chairs, but as a general thing stools and benches answered the place of sofas and lounges.

The woods furnished an abundance of venison, and corn pone suppled the place of every variety of pastry.

OLDEST SETTLER LIVING.

The oldest settler now living is William B. Smith, who erected the first frame dwelling house in 1817. It was built on the lot next west of Scott's American Hotel, and a little back from Water street. The next year he built a brick front coming up to Water street, and this portion of the building still remains. Mr. Smith is still a resident of the city, a gentleman of the old school, always highly respected, having several times been placed in offices of trust and responsibility by his fellow citizens. He still remembers the early history of the settlement of this region of the country with great distinctness. He visited the place as early as 1810, and has lived to see a wilderness, with its savage inhabitants, give place to cultivated fields, to rising cities, and to a civilized and commercial people.

In 1817 C. W. Marsh, from Greenfield, Conn., erected the first frame, at the corner of Wayne and Water streets, first called Marsh's Tavern. The next year it was again christened, and was called the Steamboat Hotel, from the fact that the first steamboat, the *Walk-in-the-Water*, had commenced making her regular trips up and down the lake, which name it bore until about the year 1847, when Alexander M. Porter made a veranda across the front, when it was christened again and called the Veranda Hotel.

PROMINENT CITIZENS.

The first Justice of the Peace was Esquire Crippen. George Anderson, M. D., was the first medical practitioner. He came from New York, and died of cholera in 1834.

Hon. Eleutheros Cooke settled here in 1821. He was the first lawyer who came here to reside. He exerted a wide influence, and his name has been associated with most of the public enterprises for the improvement of the city for half a century. Hon. F. D. Parish, now of Oberlin, Ohio, came to Sandusky to reside in 1822, being the second legal practitioner. His name has been connected with very many of the philanthropic and benevolent enterprises which attracted public attention during his residence in the place, always taking an active part in the promotion of education, morality and religion. The crowning work of his life was his long and persistent advocacy of the cause of the slave and the abolition of American slavery, which he has lived to see accomplished.

In 1818 a postoffice was established at Sandusky. Persons have held the office of postmaster in the order named: F. D. Parish, Erastus Cooke, D. Caswell, E. Brink, W. B. Smith, D. Powers, J. M. Brown, T. C. McEwen, E. B. Sadler, A. C. Van Tine, and J. M. Boalt.

In 1834 the first bank was established. The building occupied was a small stone one on Water street, south side, between Columbus avenue and Jackson streets. William Townsend was President and Robert Whitney Cashier. In 1847 the second bank, known as the City Bank, was organized and commenced business.

The city was first incorporated by act of the Legislature, February 24th, 1826. The following persons have held the office of Mayor in the order named: Moors Farwell, George Anderson, J. M. Root, John Beatty, S. B. Caldwell, J. N. Sloane, E. B. Sadler, W. W. Wetherell, Z. W. Barker, E. Warner, J. M. Brown, H. Wildman, F. M. Follett, Charles Cross, G. W. Smith, John G. Miller, W. S. Pierson, O. C. McLouth, F. Giersdorf, P. Gregg, George Daniels.

OLDEST PAPER.

On the 24th day of April, 1822, David Campbell issued the first number of the Sandusky *Clarion*. Afterwards, from the same

establishment, the *Daily Sanduskian* was issued, and, after passing through the hands of several owners, is now issued as the *Register* by I. F. Mack & Brother. In the fall of 1832 M. H. Snyder commenced the publication of a paper known as the *Commercial Advertiser*, which was soon discontinued. In December, 1842, William S. Mills and Sylvester Ross commenced the publication of the *Democratic Mirror*. In April, 1851, Augustus Reumelle and Herman Reuss commenced the publication of the first German newspaper.

In 1822 there were in Sandusky about forty buildings, including commission houses, dwelling houses, stores and barns, and about three hundred inhabitants. Among those doing business here then were L. and M. Farwell, commission merchants; William Townsend, dry goods dealer; Galin Atkin, shoe dealer; D. McMurray, druggist; E. Cooke, attorney at law; H. Kilbourn, postmaster; F. D. Parrish, attorney at law; Wheeler & Galloway, merchants; S. H. Stearns, tanner and currier; A. Root, saddler and harness maker; Bush & Hollister, commission merchants; John N. Sloane, silversmith and watch maker; O. & L. Cooke, dry goods merchants; Alexander Clemons, cabinet maker: James Hard, hatter; Sylvanus Cone, butcher; D. H. Tuttle, lumber merchant. There were others engaged in trapping, hunting and trading, but those named were the principal business men.

During the summer of 1822, the first stage route was established between Sandusky and Columbus, and during the same summer the steamboat Superior made tri monthly trips between Buffalo and Detroit, stopping at Sandusky on her way up and down the lake.

THE FIRST RAILROAD.

On the 17th day of September, 1835, work was commenced in Sandusky on the Cincinnati, Sandusky and Cleveland railroad, then known as the Mad River and Lake Erie railroad. The opening of the work was inaugurated by the assembly of a large concourse of people, amidst great rejoicing, by William Henry Harrison, afterwards President of the United States, throwing up the first shovel of dirt in the work of grading the road. In 1837 the first locomotive arrived and was placed upon the road. In the fall of 1839 the first train of cars was run to Bellevue. The track of this road was first laid with the flat rail or sometimes called the strap rail. Afterwards the track through Bellevue was taken up and the road built further West through Clyde and Green Springs to Tiffin.

In 1837 two miles of the track were completed on the Sandusky and Monroeville railroad, and in 1839 the track was finished to Monroeville in truly primitive style, with wooden rails and two cars placed upon it drawn by horses for the conveyance of freight and passengers. In 1848 iron rails were substituted for the more primitive ones of wood, and the first locomotive and train of cars were run upon the road. In the same year the line was opened through to Newark.

CHOLERA OF '49.

In the year 1849 the city was severely afflicted with cholera, which was a serious blow to the business and the then rapidly advancing prosperity of the place.

The railroad connection from the lake at Sandusky to the Ohio river at Cincinnati had just been completed and the large amount of travel and traffic passing over the line was unprecedented in the West. Large shops, docks and warehouses at Sandusky became a necessity, laborers with their families were crowded into small buildings, with insufficient accommodations, and it often happened that several families would occupy a small building hardly sufficient in size for one. Temporary cabins and boarding houses were hastily erected and soon crowded to overflowing.

When the visitation of cholera came, the city was unprepared. There were no hospital accommodations, the force of local physicians was insufficient for the emergency. Hospitals had to be improvised, and physicians, like the good Samaritan of old, came in from the neighboring cities. The first death from cholera in 1849 was Mrs. Allen,

living in the western part of the city, July 2d. After this the cholera continued to increase, but no record of its ravages was kept until July 19th. From July 20th to the 23d, there were twenty-one deaths; the 27th, fourteen; the 28th, twenty-three; the 29th, thirty-seven: the 30th, thirty-three; the 31st, eighteen; August 1st, thirteen; the 2d, seventeen; the 3d, eighteen; the 4th, twelve; the 5th, four; the 6th, twelve; the 7th, two; the 8th, two; the 9th, nine; the 10th, five; the 11th, seven. After this date no daily reports were made. The cholera lingered in and about the city for a period of sixty-eight days. No very reliable data as to the population of the city during the prevalence of the cholera can be given; quite a portion of the population, so situated that they could leave, left the city and remained away until the cholera ceased. Three prominent ministers of the Gospel, in the midst of their usefulness, fell victims to the destroyer—Rev. N. W. Fisher, pastor of the Congregational Church; Rev. H. P. Ward, of the Methodist Church, and Rev. T. C. Cooper, Methodist, in charge of the Bethel Church. They are buried side by side in Oakland Cemetery, near the city. A single marble shaft, bearing the names of each, was erected by kind friends as a monument to mark their last resting place.

The old cemetery in the western part of the city was used as a place of burial during the cholera season of 1849, and so constant was the call upon the sexton and his force for graves that for a time many were buried together in a common grave. This large grave still remains in the old cemetery, although the remains of most persons buried there have been removed to Oakland.

The cholera again visited Sandusky in the years 1852 and 1854, but in a mild form compared with that of 1849.

EARLY INDIAN RESORT.

Sandusky Bay and the adjacent country always seemed to be a favorite resort for the Indians, for the purpose of hunting and fishing, from the earliest period. We have no reliable knowledge of their tribal relations until after 1817. They had no reservation in this neighborhood, but came here for the purpose of hunting, fishing and trade.

In 1825 the Ottawa tribe of Indians lived on a reservation at or near where South Toledo now is, and came down along the lake shore to the extreme eastern point of the peninsula in great numbers for the purpose of hunting and fishing, and crossed the bay in their canoes to Sandusky to sell and barter their fish, furs and game for such articles as they could obtain. Mr. Holmes was their interpreter, and usually accompanied them. Mr. Stickney, who afterwards settled at Toledo, was their agent.

Two of the chiefs of this tribe, one called Cabeaux, who was the war chief, and one called Sausan, denominated the council chief, were frequent visitors here, accompanied often by as many as sixty, and from that to a hundred Indians.

The Senecas, who occupied a reservation near where Tiffin now is, were frequent visitors on trading expeditions. This tribe seemed more civilized and possessed more property than the Ottawas, who were very poor. By treaty the Senecas owned and occupied forty thousand acres of very rich and productive land on the east side of Sandusky river, mostly in what is now Seneca county, a part, however, being in Sandusky county. Thirty thousand acres of this land were granted them by treaty, held at the foot of Maumee Rapids on the 29th of September, 1817, and ten thousand acres by treaty held at St. Mary's the following year. Two of their chiefs, Hard Hickory and Seneca John, frequently visited Sandusky with other Indians of their tribe. Seneca John, one of the best men of his tribe, and widely known to many of the earlier settlers in this part of Ohio, was, in 1828, charged with causing the death of Comstock, another chief, by witchcraft. He protested his innocence, but it was of no avail. His brother chief, Steel, became his executioner.

In 1818 a Mr. Blanchard established the first brickyard in Sandusky for manufacturing brick, near Mr. Wm. Dean's residence, in the

eastern part of the city. He afterwards removed his yard to a place a little south of the First Ward stone school house.

In 1820 Smith & Case carried on brick making a short distance east of the shops of the Cincinnati, Sandusky and Cleveland Railroad Company. Next east of the brick-yard, on the bay shore, was located the first burying ground, being near the foot of Shelby street.

In 1818 the first school was opened in a log school house on lot number 1, Wayne street, with Sally Stimson as teacher. From this small beginning, our schools, under that strong and ever growing idea that there exists an inseparable connection between good government and universal education, have expanded, and have for the last twenty-five years been the pride and boast of our people.

EDUCATIONAL INTERESTS.

In the year 1845 four school buildings were erected, one of which was used to accommodate the High School, and located on Columbus avenue, on grounds now occupied by the Court House.

It is due to the memory of a few persons now living, and to the public spirit of the city, to state that the first Teachers' Institute held in Ohio, specially intended to benefit teachers of all grades of schools, was organized in Sandusky, September 2d, 1845. The instructors were Hon. Salem Town, of New York, Asa D. Lord, and M. F. Cowdery, of Ohio.

In December, 1848, the graded system of schools was adopted in our city. M. F. Cowdery, one of the foremost teachers and best educators in Ohio, held the position of Superintendent of our public schools for many years, and under his supervision our schools assumed and still hold a high rank among those of the State.

CHURCHES.

The first Congregational Church of Sandusky was organized on the 28th day of May, 1819. It embraced the following members: Nathan F. Jennings, David McMurray, Maria Jennings, Lydia Watkins, and Anna Sylvia. Revs. John Seward and Joseph Treat, missionaries of the Connecticut Missionary Society, conducted the services. A few accessions were made in 1820; but death, removals, etc., had reduced the society in 1822 to only two members, Samuel and Sallie Ann Walker, who remained so some four years. In 1826 a minister was secured by the church. Among the early ministers was the venerable Henry Cowles, now of Oberlin.

In 1823 two circuit ministers of the Methodist Episcopal Church, visited the place quite regularly—Revs. Petty and McIntyre. In 1824 arrangements were made for regular services at the school house. In 1826 a regular society was formed.

AN OLD CLARION NOTE.

In the following communication from the pen of Hon. Eleutheros Cooke, published in the Sandusky *Clarion* in 1821, our city is thus spoken of:

"Sandusky is situated on the margin of a delightful bay, which throws itself into the bosom of a country unrivalled in the fertility of its soil and beauty of its landscapes. It holds the southern key to that vast range of navigable lakes destined soon to become the theater of a mighty commerce. Round its borders pleasant groves wave their branches to the eye of admiration, and the very wave at its feet 'worships the loveliness' of its shores.

"What, though no poet has ever yet given to its scenery the captivating visitations of his muse; though no classic charm has ever been imparted to the description of its beauties; though no Naiads have ever sported in its waters, nor Satyrs and Dryads gamboled in its groves, yet its name is associated with some of the most interesting and romantic legends of the borders, and some of the proudest recollections of our national glory.

"Tradition proclaims it as the former residence of a long line of Indian princes, and assigns it a conspicuous station among the ancient seats of Western Empire. Actual appearances and centrality of situation go far to confirm the tradition.

"Here stood the arsenal of their envenomed arrows and war-clubs; there, at that dilapidated pile of ruins, rose the lofty mound in which the ashes of the grand Sachem or the savage monarch slumber. Here linger the mouldering vestiges of the council house, where assembled nations and tribes met to send round the joy of feast, to smoke the pipe of peace, or raise the song of war!

"But the days of their glory have departed, and the hand of oblivion is stretched forth to close forever the gates that lead to the memory of their existence. A new race of beings has succeeded, more enlightened, but perhaps less happy; the scene has changed; a new state of things has started up, as if touched by the wand of enchantment.

"But yesterday, and the peaceful bosom of the bay (now the scene of an active commerce) had rolled for ages its solitary waves, unknown to the eye and unadmired by the heart of civilization. The lofty bark now rides in majesty, or spreads her swelling sails to the breeze, where late, naught but the light canoe of the savage was tossed upon the wave or fastened to the stake. Five years have scarcely elapsed since the Indian wigwam constituted the proudest architectural monument of these shores—since the idols of the heathen fell beneath the sceptre of the white man—since the discordant jargon of the Indian pow-wow and the Indian war song were succeeded by the dulcet melodies of music and the hum of a busy population.

"We stand surrounded by the tombs of the "Capulets." We tread upon the ashes of mighty chiefs and princes. We build upon the ruins of their rustic palaces, and the very ground where your press now stands is consecrated by tradition as being the resting place of the great prophet, "Sasheek," whose voice was the oracle of his day, and whose nod was the law of his empire! Thus rolls on the tide of revolution; thus passeth away one race of beings to make room for another.

"Bold and venturous anticipation! It has fallen to our happy lot to fulfil it. Delightful reality! While other nations are growing dim with age and relapsing into barbarism, it is our peculiar duty to redeem a lovely country, decked with every bloom of nature and crowned with every bounty of Providence, from the wilderness of the savage, and to cherish its infant destinies by our mutual labors and exertions for its prosperity. And when, hereafter, time shall have given maturity to the hope of the present generation—when our little town shall have arisen (as rise it must) into a splendid city, the seat of commerce, of taste and refinement; yea, when the present age shall be looked upon as a venerable antiquity, and the mists of fable begin to gather round its history, even then the period at which a free press was first established on this shore will be remembered by posterity as the dawn of their glory, and celebrated as the most auspicious era in their infant annals."

EARLY SETTLERS ON THE PENINSULA.

ADDRESS BEFORE THE FIRE LANDS HISTORICAL SOCIETY, AT SANDUSKY, DECEMBER 21ST, 1877.

BY HON. CHARLES WATERBURY, OF SANDUSKY.

Early in the summer of 1816, there came from Albany, New York, to Ohio, one S. M. Lockwood, known hereabouts and yet remembered by our older citizens, as "Colonel Lockwood." He went over to the Peninsula, Danbury township, (now in Ottawa county,) and commenced hewing out a home in this part of the Fire Lands wilderness. By fall he had a log house on a small clearing, near where the Hartshorn dwelling now stands, and sent for his family. In October of the same year, the family —consisting of wife, three sons and a daughter—left their eastern home with such things as they could bring, traveling in wagons from Albany to Buffalo. It was late in the season when they reached the latter place, and the fall storms proved very severe, so that they were obliged to remain in Buffalo nearly three months before an effective start was made for their new home. The first attempt to come on was shortly after their reaching Buffalo. They secured passage on the small schooner Aurora—some 25 or 30 tons burthen—owned by John Wheeler, who was afterwards a a resident here, and whose decendants are still amongst us—but stress of weather soon compelled a return. Waiting until the storm abated, they again went aboard and set sail. They had not proceeded far, however, when they were again driven back by a storm, the schooner was landed high and dry, and nearly covered with sand by the time the storm was over. Afterwards, with that perseverance which characterized the sturdy Pioneers of that day, they got their household gods and goods on the sloop Nautilus, went aboard and made the third start—and were the third time driven back by storm! They then went into comfortable quarters until such time as weather and going warranted an overland trip, and in January (1817) they started in sleighs and came through the entire distance on runners, good sleighing all the way, being delayed but little, though when they reached the mouth of the Cuyahoga the snow left them. No

Cleveland there then, merely a few log houses back on the hill not worthy the name of village. Remaining here one day, snow fell the succeeding night and the next day the journey was resumed towards "Ogontz Place" (now Sandusky,) but then not a house here. One or two frames for buildings had been put up in the fall, but cold weather setting in early these frames were not enclosed until the following spring. One of these buildings is still standing on Water street, now occupied by Barney Esch, manufacturer of and dealer in boots and shoes.

THE PENINSULA REACHED.

On reaching this place they took to the bay at a point about where the foot of Columbus avenue now is, and crossed west of Bull's (now Johnson's) Island, reaching the Peninsula near where Hartshorn's dock now stands, and went into the log house erected by their father. The journey from Buffalo occupied two weeks, and all came through well, having stood the jaunt full as well as those of the present day do the necessary ten hours ride in palace cars between these points. Mrs. Lockwood died the following year, and the Colonel afterwards married again. The fruit of this marriage was one son. At the time the family came there was no harbor on Lake Erie until Sandusky bay was reached. The mouth of Buffalo creek was barred up with sand and no harbor there. The mouth of the Cuyahoga was so barred up that the water in the creek was some feet higher than in the lake across the bar. Vermillion and Huron rivers were the same. At the latter place, the sand bar was so broad that eight or ten horsemen could ride abreast across the river. A characteristic of all these streams at this early day, seems to be this filling in at the mouth. During the dry season the lake waves would pile up the sand in a huge bank or bar much higher than the surrounding water level, and when the wet season, spring and fall came on, the stream filled up and a large pond, extending miles inland was formed, until the pressure was sufficient to force an opening through the sand bar, when the water would seek its level and the mouth of the stream would be cleared ready for another dry season sand bar to form. Vermillion was then (1817) the largest place west of Erie.

AROUND SANDUSKY BAY.

At this time the distance across the mouth of Sandusky bay was not over 100 rods. Cattle and horses would cross, wading, except some 25 or 30 rods of the channel, which they had to swim.

Although there were no residents at Ogontz Place, there was something of a settlement on the Peninsula, in Danbury. Among the settlers, we name the heads of families: Roswald and Truman Pettibone, Abijah Woolcot, Alfred and Charles Richards, Harry and Artemadorus Fuller, John and Jacob Ramsdell, also their father and his family, including an unmarried son, Horace. Valentine Ramsdell was killed a few years previous in a battle with the Indians, the battle ground

being on the farm now owned and occupied by Edward Lockwood, where are still the marks of the deadly fray. Ezra Lee and family resided on the Peninsula, and he ran the ferry across the bay. None of this Lee family are now in this vicinity. Of the others above mentioned, their descendents are still with us, and among our most worthy and substantial citizens—men and women to be relied on. Of Col. Lockwood's family there are now living: Mr. Brown Lockwood, of Sandusky, and Edward Lockwood, on the Peninsula, also Wickliffe Lockwood, the second wife's son, on the Peninsula.

At this time the Custom House was on the Peninsula, and Peter P. Ferree, a Frenchman, was Custom House officer, or Collector of Customs, but he got into bad odor among the citizens. They thought him overbearing, and thought his "being dressed in a little brief authority made him play such fantastic tricks" as were unbecoming one in his sphere. At one time he seized a vessel for smuggling two barrels of land plaster, or, rather, for having them on board, as there had been no attempt to land them. The vessel broke from her moorings, was driven up the bay by the wind, and, although the inhabitants on the Peninsula did all in their power to save her, she finally went to pieces near Venice, a total loss. After this it became a warm country for Ferree. The Custom House was afterwards removed to Bull's (now Johnson's) Island in this wise: Mr. E. Bull, of Connecticut, was the owner of the island, and David Stevens, a bachelor, was Congressman from the Norwalk (Conn.) district. Bull induced Stevens to purchase an interest in the island, and thep became joint owners. In 1818 or 1819 Stevens came on to examine into matters and view his purchase, and also to look after lands of his on the Peninsula. Bull and Stevens conceived the idea of founding a city on the island, and Stevens' influence at Washington brought about a change in the location of the Custom House. Stevens, about this time, organized a scheme to colonize his western lands, and started a small colony on that portion of the Peninsula known yet as the Stevens tract, but sickness and discouragements of one kind and another in the colony, together with Stevens, in ripe bachelorhood, being taken captive and enslaved at Hymen's altar, caused a change in the spirit of his dream, though he held a considerable portion of his Western lands during his lifetime.

ADVENT OF THE WATERBURYS.

Through his representations, a nephew of his, Lewis Waterbury, a young man in Eastern New York, was induced to come on and look over the Castalia mill site, with a view of purchase. This was in 1819. Towards fall Waterbury was taken down with malaria and Western fever, and word sent back, when a younger brother came through on horseback, nursed and tended him through his sick winter, and, on return of pleasant weather, with health partially restored, they started on their home-

ward (Eastern) journey. By easy horseback stages, after weary weeks of travel, they reached Eastern New York, and the Castalia purchase was given up. Stevens' interest on the Peninsula was still quite large, and in 1829 another nephew of his, from the same Waterbury family, Talmage, with his family, consisting of wife, two sons and five daughters, came on and settled there. Previous to this, however, (in 1824) Col. Lockwood had moved to Portage township and opened up the plaster bed. The plaster was shipped in the rough (as taken from the quarry), principally to Erie, Pa., where it was ground. Michigan was rapidly settling up, and a demand soon sprang up there.

In 1830 or 1831 Col. Lockwood erected a windmill for grinding the plaster at the bed. This mill was built by Talmage Waterbury, he being the carpenter and millright. It proved a partial success, was run a number of years, and then replaced by a steam mill.

Although not included in the Fire Lands, Portage is so connected with this part of them, and has so much in common with its near neighbors, we have not considered it amiss to speak a little of this adjoining township. As we now know it, it is all the Peninsula, and just here a point worthy of note: The Fire Lands grant extended west to a certain meridian. The north stake was placed on this meridian, but in running south from this point the line bears to the west, so that all the lots on the west overrun or overmeasure, and include territory beyond what was granted. The Fire Lands survey, however, has held good, although including some of what was then known as Indian lands, afterwards Government lands. The first patent or deed from the Government to Col. Lockwood (1823 or 24), was signed by James Monroe, President, United States. At that time no person, save the President, was authorized to sign Government deeds.

THE FIRST CHOLERA.

Things moved along here, and on the Peninsula, much the same as in all new settlements—some comforts and pleasure, but with much of the hardships of pioneer life to be endured, until 1832, when the cholera made its first appearance in this country. At this time Sandusky had been started, — the name having been changed from Ogontz to Portland previous to 1822, had been again changed to Sandusky, and there were a goodly number of buildings, log and frame, including the log school house and the corporation log jail. The cholera came, too, on the schooner Ligure, from Buffalo. On the evening after the schooner's arrival, an old lady was taken, and died before morning. Captain Wadsworth was stricken down, and died also, and the disease spread on shore. A Board of Health was organized, with Moors Farwell at the head. The board condemned the schooner, sent her out into the bay some two miles from the town, and were determined to burn her at the stake, hoping thus to scotch the plague at the commence-

ment. This schooner was the property of Wm. Townsend, of Sandusky, and he, with others, fought against the decision of the board until the order to burn was revoked.

Soon after this, the cholera broke out on the Peninsula, and proved terribly fatal, especially on the lower end. Those living there at that time claim it was taken over from Sandusky by one Robert Rose, a citizen of the Peninsula, who came over, got on a spree here, which lasted several days, and who, soon after reaching home, was taken down, and lived but a few hours. Rose was an Englishman. It now spread rapidly, and many were stricken down, among them the entire Steele family being swept away. Talmage Waterbury's wife died, and I think it was the same year the youngest daughter also died, and the family were nearly all sick. In the fall of that year the Waterbury family, poor, sick, discouraged and disheartened, made their way back to Eastern New York. Afterwards, most of this family made Michigan their home, where one son and three daughters and their decendants still reside; the other remaining daughter, now a worthy matron, mother of a large family, resides in Albany county, New York. Though not myself a pioneer here, it will be seen by the foregoing that the Waterburys did something towards opening up this new country. Well do I remember, though but a lad of six then, the sad spectacle at father's, in Schoharie, New York, on the return of uncle, with his large family of motherless children.

OTHER SETTLERS.

Of another of the pioneer families we have been furnished a short sketch: In January, 1821, Elijah Dwelle and family came on from Cayuga county, New York, spent the spring and summer here (then Ogontz), and in the fall moved to Venice, then the prospective city on the bay. Venice was several times the size of Ogontz, and boasted two docks and two good sized warehouses; while here there was simply a small dock and no warehouse to speak of. The third large warehouse was soon after built at Venice, and there (at Venice) the steamers landed when steam navigation opened up on the lakes. Among the early settlers at Venice, and at this time the business men there, we note: Dr. Anderson, father of Geo. J. Anderson, of Sandusky; Charles Lindsey, Major Barrett and Major Falley. A Rev. Mr. Coe was missionary among the Indians, and had an Indian school of about 30 scholars at Venice. The descendants of some of those named above are still among us, while of others we have learned but little.

The following spring the Dwelle's took up their residence on Martin's Point, where they lived about three years. Mr. Dwelle spent a large part of his time in trapping and hunting —in fact, this is what he came West for—and his old twist-bore rifle, among the first manufactured in this country, is still in possession of his son—quaint and peculiar in construction, and still powerful in execution, as when used so effectively by the

sturdy old pioneer. The English rifle of this date had the straight, lengthwise bore, but Yankee ingenuity brought out the twist or screw bore, much more reliable and accurate, which was afterwards adopted by the English. The old musket and powder horn are also in the family, kept as souvenirs.

From the Point they moved, in the fall of 1824, to Portage, near the plaster bed. At this time Mr. Dwelle was the owner of a fine pair of cattle, no small acquisition in those days, but by some mishap he lost one of his oxen, accidentally. He now traded the odd ox to Col. Lockwood for a farm at Presque Isle—7½ acres—to which place he moved, and there lived about two years.

A NIGHT OF TERROR.

The land was low, and the spring after their settling on it, during a heavy nor'easter one night, the water overflowed the premises to the depth of several feet, standing on the floor of the house fully two feet deep. Mr. B. F. Dwelle, in relating this circumstance, said: "Mother first made the discovery. In the night she put her hand out of the bed, and it went into the water." They then got up to examine their situation. During the fore part of the night the water had closed in on them, and now there was naught around about the house but a wilderness of water, covered with floodwood, logs and timber, and withal a driving storm of snow. The house being but one story, the family, to keep out of the water, occupied beds, chairs, tables and other furniture, and watched and waited until morning. When tardy daylight came, the prospect was anything but cheering. As a matter of course, the fire had all been put out, and there were no friction matches then to relight it, and had they a light, there was no place to build a fire, as the water was two feet deep on the hearth. It had been a long, dreary night, and daylight did not seem to relieve them, for, as they looked abroad, it was one broad expanse of water on all sides, and they knew not which way to turn, nor from what direction help could come.

When the Lockwood family arose that morning and looked out, they took in the situation, and, rallying all the able-bodied men, started to rescue any of the Dwelles still alive, for they more than half believed that all of the family were drowned. According to Mr. Brown Lockwood, one of that expedition, they verily believed there was not a living person in the house. By going around on the highest ground, Mr. Lockwood states, they finally reached the house, though in doing so they got into and waded through water up to their armpits. The family they found alive and well, and soon after all started for a knoll that stood above the water, some distance off, men, woman and boys wading—the men carrying the girls on their backs—through the water and a pitiless snow storm. Mr. Dwelle took over a tent and pitched it on this rise of ground, got over bedding and clothing to make them comfortable, started a fire, and here

the family camped out until the water subsided, and then moved back into the house. They were thus drowned or driven out three several times within two years, when they betook themselves to higher ground. Of the Dwelle family, as then composed, there are now living B. F. Dwelle, of Sandusky, and S. S. Dwelle, of Kelley's Island, both of whom came on here with their father and mother in 1821, and a daughter, Mary, born after they came West. She is Mrs. Byron Hartshorn, on the Peninsula.

THE ABORIGINAL FIRE LANDS.

ADDRESS BEFORE THE FIRE LANDS HISTORICAL SOCIETY, AT CENTERTON, MARCH 20TH, 1878.

BY S. A. WILDMAN, ESQ., OF NORWALK.

Lands of mighty woods and grassy prairie! Lands untilled and trackless, save where narrow footpaths have been worn by moccasined feet! The Fire Lands of a past century!

There was a time when no white man's foot had pressed the soil, and no white man's ax had waked the echoes of the slumbering woods; when the only title deeds to these, your farms, were the bow and full quiver of the red man.

A hundred years ago there was no settler's cabin in all the Fire Lands. A quarter of a century or more was yet to wear away before the vanguard of civilization should begin its slow advance along the shores of the great lakes, into what was then the wild wilderness of the far West, but is now all vocal with the busy hum of human life.

It may be that to study the characteristics of a race of men without literature, science, or culture, and destitute of all arts save of war and the chase, and those the rudest, may not afford such profitable instruction as to read the records of the classic nations of antiquity, while we marvel at the traces which they have left us of their luxurious wealth, their high culture and refinement.

Plunging into the gloomy depths of these western woods, we shall not find broken and majestic architecture, moss-clad temples and time-stained marble sculpture, telling of a civilization high as our own, buried under the weight of accumulated centuries. The only broken columns that we shall find are the prostrate trunks of mighty forest trees; the only marble the unquarried and unchiseled marble of the rock. But if there is not such profit in the study of ancient America as of ancient Europe and Asia, there is still the fascinating interest which ever clings to mystery. There is so much that we do not know and can never hope to know about the origin, history and characteristics of our predecessors on this continent, that we find a strange charm in supplying our lack of knowledge with the creations of the imagination. In the hoary

ruins and records of the old world, we have a completed picture of the civilized past, full of wondrous beauty of form and color; but of the savage past of the new world, we have only a dim outline, embracing, rather than forms and colors, vague suggestions and sombre shadows.

INDUCEMENTS TO THE STUDY.

There are reasons beyond the mere pleasure of the study that should induce the most careful investigation into the nature of the red men and the life they led. They were not our ancestors, but they occupied the lands whereon now stand our homes. Their bones are in our soil, and beside them the flint arrow heads and stone battle axes—their handiwork. If, indeed, the ghosts of the departed haunt those spots on earth where their lives were spent, the shades of many a Hiawatha and Minnehaha must tread nightly the highways and the byways of town and country, marveling at the miracles that have been wrought since the breath of life was in their bodies, and with fleet foot and flying arrow they chased the brown deer through wood and over prairie, or sat, beading moccasins, by the wigwam door.

The study of aboriginal life is the study of human nature in its simplicity, and of aboriginal life in America, the study has the more interest, from the fact that the American seems one of the highest types, if not the highest type, of man in the savage state. He possessed (I speak of the American Indian of a generation long departed) dignified pride, courage, and unflinching fortitude. In manly attributes, he compared favorably with the primitive tribes of Asia and Europe, and by the side of the African and Australian was a nature's nobleman. He was a believer in man's immortality, and his religion was purer than that of many a more enlightened people.

SOURCES OF INFORMATION.

In any investigation of the character and life of the Indian, we should not forget that his only records are written by his enemies; that he has left us no chronicles of the momentous events of his history, no literature from which we might gather a clearer insight into his nature. But, fortunately for his fame, in the narratives which white discoverers and white pioneers have left us of their intercourse and wars with the aboriginal tribes, the conduct of the red man often enough stands out in pleasing contrast with that of his chroniclers, to teach us that he was far from being a totally depraved creature.

Since the white man landed on American shores, and began to found settlements and colonies in the wilderness, that accumulation of materials has begun, which the student of Indian character and history has to-day at hand. These materials have been drawn from the experience and observation of the explorer, the settler, the missionary and the hunter. More than one pale-faced captive, escaped or ransomed from Indian captors, has returned to civilization to put on record what he has seen and felt of Indian manners and customs. The

materials for the study would at first view seem abundant; but when we remember that our pioneers lived but on the borderland of the Indian domain, that they had no such commercial and friendly relations with their red neighbors as would induce or even permit extended and free travel among the tribes scattered all across the continent, and that their treatment of the people whom they called and considered savages, was not of a character to encourage such relations, we shall realize that our information is meagre and inaccurate. An American or an Englishman may gain a clear insight into the inner life of the German, the Frenchman and the Italian; but take away the privileges of his passport and all knowledge afforded by continental literature; destroy all international trade except a trifling system of barter along the coasts, and the knowledge that can be obtained from such sources of information as remain, must be meagre and not always trustworthy.

It is from such sources that we draw whatever knowledge we have of aboriginal America.

ABORIGINAL AMERICA AND ITS INHABITANTS.

But, taking up such broken threads of knowledge as are given us, let us weave them together as well as we can. Let us bring to our aid imagination and conjecture, based upon such facts as we have, and see if we cannot form some realization of what America was and Americans were before the coming of the conquering white man; stepping at first upon this field of inquiry, broad as the continent, because we may form a better idea of our own aboriginal Fire Lands by taking in advance a more extended view.

From ocean to ocean the new world was a wilderness. Its magnificent forests and its grassy plains were inhabited by tribes of copper-skinned men, who disputed the lordship of the land with wild beasts of prey.

Some of these tribes were nomadic in their habits, and lived almost entirely on the fruits of the chase. Others had towns and villages along pleasant river banks, and peacefully but rudely cultivated such products of the earth as maize, squashes, beans and tobacco.

The aborigines of North America were divided into several great families. I shall speak of those only, at present, whose territory was bounded by the country of the Esquimaux, in the snowy north, and on the south by the rich sub-tropical regions of the Aztec and Toltec.

Inhabiting the country so bounded was the North American Indian, distinctively so called, varying somewhat in his numerous tribal divisions, but possessing always a marked character, which distinguished him from the barbarian of any other continent.

THE ALGONQUINS.

South of the country of the Esquimaux, and in the eastern half of the territory thus bounded, was the great family of the Algonquins. Their domain was bounded on the west by the Mississippi river, and on the east by the surf of the Atlantic. Some

of its tribes had their habitation among the snows of Canada, and others dwelt among the mountains of Virginia. Its people were as nomadic as the Arabs, roaming from one hunting ground to another, and despising the slow and laborious processes of agriculture.

Although the Algonquins were already declining in numbers when the white men began to plant settlements in New England and Virginia, they were still influential enough to leave the impress of their power on the early colonial history, and many are the famous Algonquin names which the white pioneers of those days have placed upon their records. Such are the names of Samoset, Massasoit, and the greatest of the three, King Philip, of the Wampanoags; and such are the names of Powhattan and Pocahontas, father and daughter. The earliest English colonists were more familiar with the Algonquin tribes than with those of any other family, for the Atlantic coast, from Labrador to North Carolina, was Algonquin territory. Along this coast, in the days of the Plymouth and Jamestown colonies, were scattered the villages and hunting grounds of the Pequods, Wampanoags and Narragansetts, the Delawares and Mohegans, with other tribes, known to the quaint white chroniclers of the period, and often named upon the pages of their history. Nearer the center of the country, where now are the States of Michigan, Indiana, Illinois and Ohio, were the Chippewas, Sacs and Foxes, Kickapoos, Shawnees, Ottawas, Potawatomies and Miamis. All these, with many others, were Algonquin tribes, resembling each other strongly in manners and customs, and having languages easily traced to a common origin.

THE HURON-IROQUOIS.

In the middle of this wide territory was a triangular tract of country lying on both sides of Lake Erie and Lake Ontario, embracing a part of Canada, the eastern half of Ohio, the northern half of Pennsylvania, and nearly all of New York It was the territory of another great family of tribes — the Huron-Iroquois — a brave and patriotic people, of perhaps a higher character than that of the Algonquins. They built towns and villages and tilled the soil, not neglecting, meanwhile, the more exciting pursuits of the chase and war.

The principal tribes of this family were the Hurons proper, or Wyandots; the Eries and Andastes; the Tuscaroras, who at one time inhabited a part of Virginia and North Carolina, but ultimately joined their kinsmen in the north; and, lastly, the Iroquois proper, or the renowned confederacy of New York, composed of the kindred tribes of Senecas, Cayugas, Onondagas, Oneidas and Mohawks, and known as the Five Nations, which title was subsequently changed to that of the Six Nations, when they had been joined by the Tuscaroras.

To one or the other of these two great families of red men, belonged every tribe which had a habitation or

hunting grounds within the limits of the Fire Lands at the coming of the pale-faces; and hence to us the manners and customs, the character and the history of the Algonquins and the Huron-Iroquois are of peculiar interest.

FAMILIES OF OTHER TRIBES.

The other great Indian families once inhabiting the vast domain o what are now the United States, were the Cherokees of Tennessee; the Mobilian nations of the tract of country between the lower Mississippi and the Atlantic; the Dakotas, whose great territory extended from the Rocky Mountains to the Mississippi river; the Shoshones, Athabascans, Californians and others, occupying the rest of the country south and west of the Dakota territory, from the Gulf of Mexico to the Pacific Ocean.

In those days there were no census-takers to tell us how many warriors and old men, how many squaws and pappooses, each tribe could count. We can almost as accurately enumerate the howling wolves of the wilderness as we can the red-skinned men who disputed with them the ownership of the soil. But from the narratives of the hunters and travelers we gather this: That the woods did not swarm with human beings; that there were wide tracts of country uncrossed by Indian trails; that there were no great cities of red men north of the Gulf of Mexico; but that, on the contrary, the land was sparsely inhabited, the towns and villages small and rude, and the moccasin trails not covered, like our highways, with the dust of continual travel.

THE PRIMITIVE FIRE LANDS.

I have been outlining the condition of half the northern continent. In the midst of the wide wilderness which it comprised, on the southern shore of Lake Erie, were green and fertile lands, drained by the waters of the rivers Sandusky, Huron and Vermillion.

They were prairie and woodland, well watered, and abounding in game. It would have been strange if no wandering tribes of red men, whose highest idea of happiness was embodied in a paradise of happy hunting grounds, should not have lingered along these river banks, where, even in the days of our own pioneers, whose memory we cherish, the feathered arrow of the Indian never searched vainly for a victim.

It is interesting to note that here, in one group of counties, a part of which we are, by that process of language petrifaction which has left upon our lakes and rivers, States and Territories, the names which were familiar and expressive words to the tribes of people whose graves are all about us, we have six Indian titles: Erie, Sandusky and Ottawa; Huron, Seneca and Wyandot.

THE LOST ERIES.

All these names but one were tribal designations; but not all the tribes whose names have been so perpetuated, had any habitation on the Fire Lands within the memory of white men. Ottawas, Hurons or Wyandots and Senecas, there were among the

pioneer settlers in the early years of this century; but long before that, naught but a memory remained of the Eries, that proud, fierce tribe, whose war with the Five Nations of New York forms one of the most interesting traditions of pre-historic America. The Eries, it is said, dreaded the combination of five such tribes as, united, made up the Iroquois Five Nations. They endeavored to crush the confederacy in its inception, but were themselves defeated, with terrible slaughter, between Canandaigua Lake and the Genessee river. They were driven from their ancient home at the foot of the great lake which still bears their name, and found a new habitation in the far West. There is a tradition that many years later a war party of their descendants returned from beyond the Mississippi, and attacked the Senecas, who had settled upon the fatherland of the Eries; but the result was a second crushing defeat, and the annihilation of the Erie race, unless a remnant of it was left beyond the king of rivers to mingle with the red races of the West.

This is the tradition, as given by venerable chiefs of the Senecas and Tonawandas only a few years ago. Whether correct in its details or not, it seems certain that long before the settlement of the Fire Lands the race of Eries was extinct or blended with other tribes. As long ago as the middle of the seventeenth century they probably occupied northern Ohio, along the shores of Lake Erie, and the famous pictured rocks on Kelley's Island have been supposed by Shingwauk, the Little Pine, an Indian archæologist, to refer to the wars of this lost nation.

TRIBES IN THE FIRE LANDS.

What Indian tribes inhabited the Fire Lands long before the building of the first white man's cabin, we cannot certainly know.

Champlain, the first resident Governor of New France, or Lower Canada, who learned much concerning the various tribes dwelling along the great lakes from 1603 to 1635, was able to give little information about what he described as the Neutral Nation, living south of Lake Erie. During that period Ohio was to white men an unexplored and mysterious waste of gloomy woods, and a hundred slow years had yet to roll away before much more was to be known concerning it. It would seem, however, that after the destruction of the Eries the greater part of Ohio was never so much the peculiar territory of any one nation as the common hunting ground of many.

As white settlements increased along the Atlantic coast, and the natives were crowded more and more toward the setting sun, tribes and remnants of tribes, whose homes had been in the East, wandered into Ohio and lingered there, until the advancing army of civilization pressed them still further toward their ultimate destiny.

It is for this reason that in the chronicles of our pioneers we find mention of so many diverse tribes. They were sojourners, most of them,

rather than permanent dwellers upon the Fire Lands. The land may have seemed almost as strange to them as to our fathers.

On the pages of the *Pioneer*, the magazine of your society, the earliest white settlers on the Fire Lands have recorded these names of the tribes which had representatives here during the first years of this century: Of the Algonquin family, the Miamis or Maumees, the Tawas or Ottawas, the Chippeways or Ojibways, the Delawares, Shawnees and Potawatomies; and of the Huron-Iroquois family, the Wyandots or Hurons proper, and the Senecas, all of which seem to have had hunting grounds upon the Fire Lands.

THE FAMILIAR WYANDOTS.

Of these tribes, that of the Wyandots is perhaps oftenest mentioned by the pioneers. The people of this tribe lived for the most part along the Sandusky river for many years after the towns and villages of the palefaces had sprung up all over the Fire Lands. The Wyandots and Hurons were the same people, the latter name being the one bestowed upon them by the French.

In the years when the Iroquois were waging their relentless wars against the Eries, the Wyandots lived on the Canada side of the lakes, although they seem sometimes to have extended their hunting excursions as far south as the regions about the mouths of the Miami and Sandusky.

They also became involved in war with the powerful Iroquois, and, as in the case of the Eries, the Wyandots also were, as a nation, almost exterminated by the seemingly invincible confederacy of New York. But, in later days, after the Eries had ceased to be known in Ohio, and the strife with the Five Nations of Iroquois had ended, remnants of the Wyandots hunted and planted corn along the rich valley of the Sandusky, or Sah-un-dus kee, as they called it—a compound word of their language, meaning, freely translated, "clear water." There was preserved among them a tradition of their migration across the lakes, impelled by a great famine to search for new hunting grounds. They built their "big fire" or chief town, at Upper Sandusky, and an ancient map, published in 1755, shows the location of others of their villages along the river. These settlements flourished, and the Wyandots became, after the lapse of years, the most powerful tribe in this region. There is frequent mention in the chronicles of the Fire Lands pioneers of parties of these Sandusky river Wyandots who crossed the Fire Lands in search of game.

THE SENECAS.

In smaller numbers on the Fire Lands were the Senecas, a remnant of the once powerful nation which, with the other tribes of the Iroquois confederacy, a century and a half before had crushed the Wyandots and the Eries. The white settlements had become numerous through the territory where the Five Nations had held dominion. The star of the Senecas was waning. They had no longer the leadership of such chieftains as

Red Jacket, the warrior-orator, and, driven by the dominant Caucasian race, they were drifting slowly across the country toward the great plains of the West.

Besides these two representatives of the Huron Iroquois family, there were no others on the Fire Lands in the days of our pioneers.

The Algonquins, however, were here, not in such numbers of individuals, probably, but more numerously represented in names of tribes.

TRIBES ON THE HURON.

Among these I note the Delawares, the Renappi or Lenni-Lenape, as they called themselves, the kindred of the Mohigans, with whom every reader of Cooper's Leather-Stocking tales feels a friendly acquaintance. These Delawares lived along the banks of the Huron river, the most of them in Milan township. With them were mingled the Ottawas or "Tawas," as many of the white settlers called them. The one people had come from the East, where for years they had lived among the other Algonquin tribes of the Atlantic States; the other had come from the northwest, and, in perfect peace, both had united their fortunes in the pleasant valley of the Huron. Upon the picturesque site of the town of Milan they built their village Pequotting, and there and in that vicinity, for many years after the coming of the pale-faces, they hunted, fished, and raised corn on the fertile river flats. Among them the Moravian missionaries, working with tireless patience for the Christianizing and civilizing of the savages, had established a church; and before the breaking out of the war of 1812, which was disastrous to the Pequotting mission, the zeal of these humble but devoted teachers of Christianity had met with great reward. One of the historians of Clarksfield, writing in the *Pioneer* of November, 1858, concerning the settlement of that township, bears this testimony:

"The Indians were, in general, peaceful. They often called upon us and partook of such food as we had. Sometimes three or four of them would lodge all night, and appeared thankful; and it is worthy of remark that in that early day there were strong marks of missionary training among the savage race in our vicinity."

I believe that it was these Delawares and Ottawas of Pequotting who were accustomed to make maple sugar on the river flats west of Norwalk, and whose trail lay along the ridge where now is Main street, the pleasant maple shaded avenue which is the pride of the town.

ALGONQUIN VISITORS.

The other Algonquin tribes, so far as I have been able to learn, had no fixed residence on or near the Fire Lands, but, pursuant to their nomadic habits, they made occasional visits to this section of the country. This was particularly the case with the Chippewas, Miamis and Potawatomies. They were all inhabitants of the country west and northwest of us. The Shawnees were of southern origin. They had a tradition that

their ancestors came from some foreign land, across the sea.

According to French accounts, the tribe of Chippewas or Ojibways is worthy of more than a passing notice. They are said to have been a powerful and brave race, and their war with the Sioux, which was waged for one hundred and eighty years after the whites first knew them, and we know not for how long before, is one of the memorable events of Indian history, and is the surest proof of the indomitable courage and pride of both tribes.

The territory of the Chippewas was on both sides of Lake Superior, at the head of which was their chief town, Chegoimegon, where, it is said, they kept a perpetual fire burning.

They were a tall, well-formed race, of easy manners, and their language was praised by the French as the court language of the aborigines.

Bands of Indians of the tribes which I have mentioned hunted and fished over most and probably all the townships of the Fire Lands; but, except Pequotting, they had no village in either Erie county or Huron at the time of the first white settlements..

TWO FAMOUS CHIEFS.

So many years have slipped away since the last red man vanished from the Fire Lands, like a departing ghost of a dead and buried past, that we can now but dimly trace even the tribal distinctions and names of these strange children of the woods. Few, indeed, are the names, and faint the memories, of the individual warriors and chieftains which have been preserved to us. But before they are all forever lost in the shadows of the past, let us rescue and keep bright the names and fame of Seneca John and Ogontz, the Ottawa, two noble representatives of the better class of Algonquin and Iroquois.

In those days the red men were in a transition state. They had been savages, with all the cruelty, the bad passions and the ignorance of savagery; but now, from their intercourse with the whites they were learning many of the mean vices, with a few of the virtues of civilization. The missionary and the trader were working side by side, but not in harmony, and too often the good work of the one was destroyed by the bad work wrought by the other.

In such a period the characters of John, the Seneca, and of Ogontz, the Ottawa, stand out in bold and pleasing relief. In the frequent mention of these two chiefs by the early chroniclers of the Fire Lands, I have been able to find no word of disparagement concerning either of them.

The Seneca was accustomed to hunt in the southwest part of Huron county. The early settlers of Peru and Ripley especially always welcomed him to their neighborhood, and some of them have placed on record their appreciation of his character. He could speak but little English, but was always friendly to the settlers, and was brave, honest and trustworthy.

Ogontz was better known in the

region of Sandusky, which was one of his favorite resorts at certain seasons of the year for the purpose of fishing and hunting. He is described as a chief of stately form and noble bearing, and, like Seneca John, he seems to have been in character a nature's nobleman, while, unlike John, he had received at the hands of the French a high degree of culture.

The tragedy which ended the career of each of these hunter and warrior chiefs illustrates the sanguinary character of their race. Seneca John was accused of witchcraft, and, having been condemned by his own tribe, was unhesitatingly slain, his own brother being his executioner. Ogontz, years before his death, had killed in self-defense a rival chief, and had adopted the latter's son, who, even in his boyhood, cherished a desire to avenge his father's death. The boy grew up, and, when the opportunity offered, took the life of the brave, kind Ogontz, who had been a second father to him, better than the first.

These two men, John and Ogontz, the Seneca and the Ottawa, the Iroquois and the Algonquin, are the type of the aboriginal native of America, uncorrupted by association with the white men. They lived and died, the one an ignorant savage, the other an educated gentleman, but both by nature proud, noble and manly, the proof that the red man was not always in his present state of miserable degradation.

THE PAST RESTORED.

Any view of Indian life and character is incomplete which fails to take in its surroundings. Before we can have vividly before us the life of the red man of the Firelands, we must reconstruct the Fire Lands themselves as they were a century ago. We must clear away all the marks of civilization; we must rear again the mighty woods, and let the prairie grasses grow in the rankness and luxuriance of nature; we must rescue from the overflowing waves of the destroying lake, the fertile lands on which they have encroached, and restore the marsh lands along our Huron river to the tillable condition of the past; we must sweep all the mill dams from the rivers, and let the lake muscalonge and pickerel, the lawful prey of the Indian, ascend to the furthest limits of Huron county; we must repeople the forests with screaming panthers, bears, and packs of howling wolves; deer must abound and rattlesnakes must crawl in the damp and gloomy woods.

THE LIFE OF THE RED MAN.

Amid such surroundings as these, the Indian warrior reared his family. His daily work was hunting and trapping game, when he was not on the war trail seeking the scalps of his enemies. According to Seneca John, the hunting grounds were by agreement allotted among the tribes, and, doubtless, encroachments on one another's territory, and disputes as to boundaries were the fruitful cause of quarrels and bloodshed.

In the autumn of every year the prairies were burned over, that the abundant deer might be more easily

tracked and hunted over the bare and blackened soil.

While the young men were engaged in such pursuits, the other members of the tribes remained at home. The old men, doubtless, smoked and dozed away the hours, or, not unlike our pioneers, lived over their youth in tales of daring deeds when their eyes were keen and their arms strong. The half-naked children played out of doors by themselves, or importuned their grandfathers to make them bows and arrows, or, maybe, ever insatiable, begged to be told innumerable stories, entirely after the manner of juvenile palefaces; for children are children the world over. The squaws, meanwhile, tied up their little pappooses in bark cradles, which they hung from the limbs of trees, to be rocked by the passing wind, and then, meekly recognizing the existence of a "woman's sphere" and their wifely duties to their lordly husbands, which had been by the latter circumscribed and defined for them, they dutifully brought the water, gathered the fire wood and hoed the corn, as it was the custom for even the strongest minded squaws to do; and, while they toiled with sweating faces and aching backs, they longed for the going down of the hot sun and the sight of their returning braves, with venison-laden ponies or belts full of reeking scalps.

THE FAMILY AFFECTIONS.

But shall we infer from this slavery into which the fashion of the race forced women, that there was no affection between husband and wife? There was a time when I almost thought so; but I have learned to believe that under all the artificial and arbitrary manners and customs of the world there is a substratum of human nature which never varies; and I doubt not that the Indian husband and wife often loved one another with an affection not different from that of the palest faced Caucasian.

The Moravian missionary, Heckewelder, tells a touching story illustrative of such tenderness on the part of an Indian husband towards his wife. It was in a time of famine, and a sick Indian woman expressed a longing for some Indian corn. There was none in the region where they lived, but a trader had a small quantity at Lower Sandusky, a hundred miles away. Thither the woman's husband rode, and, having traded his horse for a small quantity of the precious corn, he returned on foot along the weary trail, carrying it with him, that he might gladden the heart of his loved wife.

The same human nature shone out in the love of parents for their children. The red warrior was a stern and taciturn man, and perhaps the little ones oftener looked up to him with fear and awe than with any other emotion; but there must have been something besides sternness in the heart of that Wyandot of Upper Sandusky who, while on a hunting excursion east of Milan, lost a child by death, and carried the body home in his arms, that the little one might sleep in the grave of its mother. By

day and by night he carried his burden and his sorrow, alone in the lonely woods, until he reached his dreary home. He was an Indian, and would shed no tears, but every white father who has lost the first-born son of his pride and affection, can understand the bitterness of the red man's sorrow.

FAMINE AND PESTILENCE.

It is a mystery how the Indians obtained the means of living through the winter. Even those tribes who did not despise agriculture tilled the soil in a superficial way, and often had short crops. In such a season, their chief dependence was on fish and game, and even these must at times have failed them. It is easy to understand that such famines as that which drove the Wyandots south of the lake, according to their tradition, was not an unfrequent occurrence. Pestilence, too, occasionally swept the country, destroying whole tribes. I have spoken of Ogontz as an Ottawa, but in reality, by his own statement, he was an adopted son of that tribe, his own parents having died in such a pestilence while he was a child. Samoset, the Wampanoag, told to the New England colonists the story of a great plague which, a few years before, had almost denuded the country of its inhabitants, and had left many of the tribes in a feeble and desolate condition.

THE ABORIGINAL LANGUAGES.

The tongues and dialects spoken by the natives of America have been a fruitful source of study to philologists. As the Algonquin tribes inhabited that part of the Atlantic Coast first settled by the English, their language gave to the colonists several words, which have almost become a part of our English vocabulary. They are such words as wigwam, squaw, wampum, tomahawk, sachem, etc. The words in the Indian vocabularies were few, and it became often necessary for them to express their ideas circuitously, by metaphors and other figures, and by combinations of words, which, printed together in English books, have given many people the impression that the aboriginal languages were full of unpronounceable, polysyllabic words. Many English books have been translated into these languages and dialects, grammars and dictionaries have been written of the tongues of several of the tribes, and comparative philologists have sought, by means of verbal affinities, to trace the sources and beginnings of the American races.

PRIMAL RACES OF THE CONTINENT.

There is no subject connected with aboriginal America having more of the interest of unsolved mystery than this. As with most mysteries, if we could lift the curtain which hides from us the genesis of the people who inhabited the continent before us, the subject would lose its fascination.

In the examination of this topic it is manifest that one must take a wider view than of the tribes or remnants of tribes which found a home on the Fire Lands. He must study the world and its inhabitants; he must examine languages and manners and

customs, traditions and religions, characteristics, physical and mental.

All these together have not solved the problem. The American races have been supposed to be akin to some of the Asiatic families, but their languages fail to connect them.

The modes of life and some of their implements, however, indicate a connection with all the extinct races of the old world whose relics are found in mounds and shell heaps.

The traditions of the American tribes give little light in the matter, and it is probable that, having no written language, and lacking the monumental records of the Asiatic nations, there are no memories or traditions reaching back to their migration across the salt water. The Athabascans, to be sure, think that their ancestors came across the Pacific, and the Shawnees admit a foreign ancestry, but these beliefs are probably ideas which their own imaginations have furnished in later centuries, having no relation to the actual fact of their transmigration, which must have occurred, if at all, too many centuries back in the past for the memories of men to have preserved the knowledge of it.

It appears that while there are many marks of similarity linking together all the families and tribes of America, there are two grand divisions of them, both having been believed until recently to have come from the northwest. But while this is still, I believe, the generally received opinion with regard to the North American Indian proper, and, perhaps, the savages of South America also, great doubts have arisen as to the strange nations who formerly inhabited Mexico, Central America and the western slope of the Andes —nations at the time of the Spanish conquests, almost, if not quite, as highly civilized as their conquerors.

At the time of these conquests the plateau of Anahuac, or Mexico, was occupied by seven nations, which collectively bore the name of Nahuathecas. One of the seven was the nation of Aztecas or Aztecs, by which title we have learned to call all the people of Mexico of that period. They had been preceded by a still more highly civilized people, called the Toltecs, who, so far as we know, were extinct at the time of the conquests.

By the traditions of the Nahuathecas, they had come originally from a region called Aztlan. Its locality has been the subject of much speculation. It has been supposed by some writers that it was in Asia, and that the Mexican paintings, depicting the passage of canoes or rafts over a body of water, refer to a transmigration from that continent. Most writers, however, have supposed Aztlan to have been in America, north of Mexico, and beyond the river Gila. The doubts as to this northern locality have originated mainly from the association in one painting of the hieroglyph representing Aztlan with a *teocalli* or temple, by the side of which stands a palm tree, a circumstance opposed to the theory of northern locality. These

doubts have been strengthened by the fact that a people speaking the same language with the Aztecs, and having the same habits, laws and religion, existed as far south as Nicaragua, and at the conquest occupied nearly the whole of what is now San Salvador, in Central America.

THE LOST ATLANTIS.

Where and what, then, was this mysterious Aztlan, the dim traditien of which links us with the remote past of America?

Is the tradition among the Greek geographers of a mysterious island or continent Atlantis, to the northwest of Africa and west of the Pillars of Hercules, but a mere coincidence of names? Is the story of Plato, that such a land once existed, inhabited by a numerous and civilized people, nothing but a myth? It may be that the singular combinations of letters, which we find in the words of people on both sides of the Atlantic—such names as Atlas and Miltzin, of northwest Africa, the Atlantis of the ancients, and the Aztlan, Nahuatlecas, Tlascaltecas, Toltecs, Popocatapetl, and numerous other words having the same combinations of the consonants "t" and "l," are mere accidents; but there is a certain fascination about the theory that in remote antiquity a continent or large island, now submerged under the ceaselessly beating billows of the Atlantic, formed a connecting link between the old world and the new; and that the same language named the Atlas mountains of Africa and was spoken by the remote progenitors of the mysterious people who inhabited America before the coming of the savage tribes, whose descendants we have seen.

THE MOUND BUILDERS.

It may be thought that I have wandered far from my theme of the aboriginal Fire Lands, but who of you can say that there is no connection between the temple-builders of Mexico and the Mound Builders of Ohio? Certain it is that all over the Mississippi valley, from the great lakes to the Gulf, is written the evidence of the existence of a race of people whom the Indians had long forgotten, if they ever knew them, when the ships of Columbus made their daring venture across the sea.

A page of this evidence is written in the soil of the Fire Lands. Along the banks of its water-courses are numerous earthworks and mounds, which were to the red men, as they are to us, unexplained antiquities. Above them, forest trees have sprung up from the seed, grown old and gone to decay, while under them human bones were crumbling to dust.

In the townships of Huron, Berlin, Vermillion and Milan, of Erie county; of Norwalk, New Haven and Norwich, of Huron county, and perhaps in other localities of the Fire Lands, are found earthworks of various kinds—some of them mounds and some fortifications, and under or near them, almost invariably, are the crumbling and brittle bones of the men who were their builders. Not all of these works, perhaps, were wrought by the hands of the forgotten

race of people whom we have distinctively called the Mound Builders. Same of them may be the work of Indian hands; but as to the most of them, if not all, no traditions of Delaware or Ottawa, Seneca or Wyandot, reach back to the time of their erection. It may be that if any of that other vanished people, the Eries, could come back to their old hunting grounds, they might tell us something about the men who reared these monuments of the past; but I cannot but imagine that they would say to us: "As these things are unexplained riddles to you, so they are to us. Neither the memories of our old men nor the traditions of our ancestors tell us aught concerning them."

We are left in the midst of the uncertain field of fancy. No living man can tell us with authority which one, if any, of the many theories concerning the red men and the Mound Builders, the Aztec and the Toltec, is the true one. This we know: that we are treading over the graves of innumerable strangers to us, who have left us not even the name or the origin of their race. We know not even how many centuries ago they vanished from the face of the land.

I have but glanced with you at the Fire Lands of pre-historic times. A hundred things might still be said, and yet the darkness which hides from our conception the state of a country whose people wrote no history, would not be changed to twilight.

Mental and Moral Characteristics of the Pioneers.

ADDRESS BEFORE THE HISTORICAL SOCIETY AT ITS TWENTY-SECOND ANNUAL MEETING, JULY 10TH, 1878.

BY REV. J. S. BROADWELL, OF NORWALK.

MR. PRESIDENT, LADIES AND GENTLEMEN:—It is with the deepest sympathy in the purpose and work of this society that I appear before you at your annual gathering. To me there is something well nigh enchanting in this work, which may be fitly called a labor of love. As in the years of young manhood and womanhood the brave pioneers left their homes in the east, with partings and adieus from friends who never expected to see them again, and who treasured with most sacred fidelity every word and every token of their love, so one by one, in the ripeness of age and honors, these revered ones have joined another caravan that, halting one night time in the vale of death, in the morning strikes its white tents for the onward march, with feet unwearied and with strength renewed, like the strong eagles, for their upward flight, the flight of the ages. Slowly they have passed away from the homes of love and the scenes of their suffering and joy, and you are gathering up their words and records with a fidelity and enthusiasm which is at once an honor to your hearts and a tribute of no mean value to the memory of the men and women who settled the Fire Lands.

You may know a home by the affectionate regard of the children of the home. So you may know a people by the good will which they cherish for the past of their country—and so, too, that country will be loved as it has been worthy of love. There are certain laws in force in society which tell what society has been and what it may be. Given the data furnished in the life of a people, and we can, with a great deal of certainty, draw the inference. Man writes the great anthem which we call history; but God makes the lines, gives the key, and arranges the harmonies; so that oftentimes what seems only the wildest discord comes at last, when complete, to be revealed as one of God's grand symphonies. So there is law, and this law we call a plan. So definite are the laws, so fixed the plan, that some look upon society as

automatic, the field of fate, and think that all we need is to understand the working of the machine, and we can leave the Signal Service department, with its predictions, far behind in the predictions we can make of births, deaths, marriages, suicides, revolutions and crimes of every grade. They forget that, although we are in a world of law, it is man that uses the law instead of the law using the man. Notwithstanding, within certain limits in History, the law of Averages, the Survival of the Fittest, and Heredity, are certainly true, and you are illustrating in your gleanings this law, and I come to-day, not to add to what you have accomplished, but to look it over and see what you have found revealing the characters of these fathers and mothers of Fire Land fame, and learn what were their mental and moral characteristics, and what are the lessons for us.

There are some paleontologists who, digging among the ruins of a world of extinct forms, if they can find a single bone, will build from the hint the skeleton of the long extinct animal. Now, while it would not be well to construct history upon the same principles, yet the possession of a few facts will often give a clear insight into the character of an individual or community. Fortunately for the future historian of the Fire Lands, he will not be thus limited, for you are preparing for him a storehouse filled with the most fascinating materials.

THE ADVENT OF THE PIONERS.

The Pilgrims who came to settle this rich inheritance stood, at the time of their coming, upon the dividing ridge of the ages. The world's blood had just begun to feel the coming of a new life. The slow pace of time was to be quickened into strides that would shake the world. Since the time of Abraham no improvement had been made in the velocity of travel; but when they came, the first rude locomotive was taking shape from the mind and hand of the child of genius, and they who came here from their early homes with ox teams and horses at the rate of a few miles a day, lived to ride in palaces at forty miles an hour After the coming of the locomotive, everything was to be done in a hurry. Then the farmer thrashed his grain very much as the teacher thrashed the farmer's children, and with what scorn he would have looked upon the hair-brained visionary who would have suggested that some day his beautiful prairies or fruitful ridges would be reaped by a machine, when one man and his team would cut and rake, bind and lay in golden sheaves at his feet, his abundant harvest at the rate of eight or ten acres a day. The telegraph was not here, and cheap postage had not been invented. The plain housewife knew nothing of that modern invention for destroying her sex (doubling the amount of labor, as well as the amount of cloth), the sewing machine; stitching, stitching, and doing with so much beauty and so much facility the work of our homes, and of which the best and the most "Dauntless," as well as the most

"Domestic," have been made right here, where the pioneers, the children of toil, first settled. Passing by the unnumbered achievements of human skill in the life time of the pioneer fathers, let me name just one more, which, had it existed then, might have reproduced for us here to-day their stories and addresses, their songs and prayers, and the very tones of their voices; mysterious triumph of human genius, the Phonograph, invented by one of the native Firelanders, born in the village of Milan, where in 1789 the Moravians made the first settlements of the Fire Lands.

WHO WERE THEIR PROGENITORS.

So the position of the pioneers in history is peculiarly fortunate. They were fortunate also in their ancestry. Whatever may have been the mistakes of the Puritans, we live in an age when we can afford to be charitable towards their faults, and when we would not be at all injured by a careful attention to their many virtues. They possessed magnificent specimens, and a good many of them, of an article known as *back-bone*, something that can neither be bought nor sold. They believed in God. They believed also in man and duty. At the time of what was familiarly known as "the dark day" the Legislature of the State of Connecticut was in session. Anxiety and apprehension appeared upon the countenances of many, and, "It is the Lord's Great Day! Let us adjourn," said some. "No," said Abraham Davenport,

"This may well be
The Day of Judgment which the world awaits;
But be it so or not, I only know
My present duty, and my Lord's command,
To occupy till he come. So, at the post
Where he has set me in his providence,
I chose, for one, to meet him face to face,—
No faithless servant frightened from my task,
But ready when the Lord of the harvest calls;
And, therefore, with all reverence, I would say,
Let God do his work, we will see to ours.
Bring in the candles." And they brought them in.

Such was the temper of that human metal. It has been said again and again that they were intolerant, and so they were; but they left imbedded in the hearts of their children, as firmly established as the foundations of the hills they loved, the very principles which have realized the grandest development of civil and religious liberty that the world has ever seen; so that there is no place in all the world to-day where a man is less likely to be molested or persecuted for the holding or the expression of his opinions than in New England, and no place where, if they are pernicious, they would be less likely to injure. And these settlers of the Fire Lands were mostly children of New England and Eastern New York, and by the law that I have mentioned as prevailing, the law of Heredity, that if you know the father's and mother's history, you surely, as a rule, know what the children are or will be. So, if you know what the mental and moral characteristics of the Puritans were, you can pretty well judge what these Fire Lands Pilgrims were. Their success was half assured when they were born, be-

cause they were well born. In saying these things, I shall not forget that there were times and places where the exhibition of mental power was not remarkable, and where the sway of morality was not very marked. In other words, where they did not pay very much attention to either, but these places were few and the times of their prevalence of short duration. The land seemed from the first to have been devoted to a bright history. I have alluded to the Moravians. There is no brighter history of unselfish endeavor for the good of the race than that written in the history of this people, and, although they did not stay long in the settlement at Milan, I cannot but believe that there lingered after they were gone the fragrance of their prayers for the land they sought to make their home, and that those prayers have not been in vain. The pioneers who settled here were many of them, in their mental and moral characteristics, not unlike these Moravian teachers and missionaries.

SOME TRAITS OF CHARACTER.

Let me notice a few traits of character that gave them success:

First—Their financial ability, as manifested in their habits of economy and their increase of property. They were not exactly like the North Carolina settler, who remarked that he began life with nothing, and by hard work and strict economy he had always succeeded in holding his own, but, commencing with little, by hard work and careful management they have made the land beautiful and rich. "The wilderness and the solitary places they have made glad." They had power to adapt themselves to circumstances and make the most of the situation. If you look back to those days you wonder how they got along at all. Imagine a company of gentlemen on their way to attend court at Norwalk, among them a wealthy land owner, asking his companions for the loan of half a dollar, stating that he had not been able to raise that amount before leaving home, and the gentleman applied to said that he could have a dollar if he needed so much, and you will see the necessity for some financial ability.

A gentleman whom I have known for years tells that in December, 1822, he was straitened for money to pay his taxes, as many have been since and are now—but mark his effort. He first offered to work for twenty-five cents a day and board himself, but no man hired him. In great anxiety of mind, he finally bor rowed the money from a neighbor, who happened to have some, and paid his taxes. The next day, after spending a night of great gloom and anxiety over his debt, he was fortunate enough to shoot a wolf, for the scalp of which he received seven dollars, State and county bounty, which relieved him from all his debts, left him fifty cents, and made him feel himself the richest man that walked the earth.

HOW THEY LIVED AND FARED.

They lived mostly within themselves and within their means. Raising their own provisions, making their

own furniture, supplying the material for cutting and making their own wardrobe, they were sure of ultimate success. As a specimen of the amount of taxes paid, take the town of Vermillion, which in the year 1818 raised $23.20. The value of the property was, in the first settlement, say $1,000,000; it is now no less than $40,000,000. The taxes in the entire State in 1815 were $259,486, and in 1877 they were $29,525,747. They paid their way as they went and made, themselves, the foundations of their wealth in their home industries. There are valuable lessons of finance and political economy in the sagacity and frugality of these men and women.

PIONEER INTELLIGENCE.

Second—They were intelligent.

It is said of the Puritans that "So complete and universal were the means of instruction that in the times preceding the Revolution there was not to be found in all New England an adult born in the country who could not read and write." What a splendid record is this. What if we could say this to-day of our whole land. With what a steady light would burn the star of our destiny, and with what unshaken faith would the patriot look to the future. Coming from the land of schools, they very soon make provision for education in their new home. One of the first school houses was built in the fall of 1816, a few rods from the township line between Ridgefield and Norwalk. The venerable Dr. Gurley, in an address before this Society a few years since, tells of the formation of one of the first literary societies in this part of the State. It was formed of young men residing in the townships of Milan, Huron and Perkins, and in the summer time they met beneath the overshadowing of a great oak, midway between Perkins and Milan. There, on Saturday, they debated all day, at noon-time taking their dinner of raccoon meat and johnny cake. Another society was formed in Vermillion in 1820. One of the questions was, "Which is the most useful, horses or cattle? and, after much learned discussion, was decided in favor of beef. But intelligence has a broader meaning than the learning of the schools.

APPLICATION OF KNOWLEDGE.

These men knew how to use knowledge and opportunities, and this best form of intelligence I shall call their *Wisdom*. Wisdom and Wit are akin. Wisdom is the power to use all our knowledge for practical purposes, accomplishing through the combinations of facts and observations the solution of a difficult problem. Wit is that subtle power of the mind that seizes at the right moment upon the occasion and turns everything to its own account. Wisdom comes with calmer processes of thought to accomplish the same work, but uses the intuition of Wit to assist. These pioneers had both wisdom and wit. With great practical sense and fertility of invention and resources, they turned everything to account, and gathered from the darkest mine of disaster the brightest jewel of success.

As illustrating their condition, one of them says: "We raised flax and made thread, and carded, spun, wove, colored, cut and made our own garments. Oak bark and the shucks of walnuts and butternuts served as coloring materials. We purchased needles and pins of occasional peddlers. My first needle was a birthday present from an aunt, and for years I carefully preserved it—my only needle. The deficiency in pins was supplied by certain kinds of them which were plentiful. It was some time before we raised broom corn, and until then we manufactured brooms by taking a hickory or maple stick of sufficient length to form the handle and brush, the latter being made by splintering the end finely with a knife and fastening them with a string of flax or hemp, and with them we made a "clean sweep." In order to supply the various demands of the appetite, how often was genius called into action to furnish a substitute. For instance, in making mince pies, cranberries were used instead of apples, and the juice of frozen pumpkins boiled down for molasses, and venison in lieu of beef. The fat of bears and rabbits was often used for shortening pie crust. Saleratus we made by burning corn cobs to ashes."

HUMOR OF THE PIONEERS.

I should be glad to dwell for a while upon their Humor, and show how they appreciated the ready repartee, the happy anecdote, the ludicrous association, and how they made the very fields and forests smile with the sunshine they carried with them, making them cheerful in distress, and contented and even happy in the midst of self-sacrifices and privations of the severest kind; but I cannot dwell upon the pleasing theme. One incident will be enough to illustrate the point. Daniel Sherman was about moving to his house in Sherman township, and had a couple of gallon bottles of whisky. On his way home he called at George Sheffield's on some business, and, after a time, started for home. Arriving there, he took off the bag with the bottles; but on examination one bottle had turned into a wooden maul. A few days after Sheffield, in company with some others, called on Mr. Sherman. After sitting awhile, he said, "Come, Sherman, can't you afford to treat your sriends?" "O, yes," responded Mr. Sherman. Then, bringing a pitcher of water and some glasses, and placing the old maul beside them, he very courteously said, "Mr. Sheffield, help yourself." How glad would the land be if all the whisky bottles could be replaced with mauls ere they turned men into mauls.

LOVE OF HOME AND COUNTRY.

Whatever qualities of mind they were endowed with, their strongest hold upon the future was through the still more noble qualities of the heart. They were eminently patriotic and domestic. They loved their country and their homes. They were no gold-seeking adventurers, but a people in search of a resting place. No people knew better the meaning of the word home. No desire for extensive wardrobes, palatial residences

and large incomes drove men into the perils, distresses and loneliness of bachelorhood. If they had less style in their courtship, less formality and display in their marriages, they had no less love and trust at their firesides. It is true that their marriages were not all as informal as that of a couple in pioneer times in Indiana, mentioned in vol. 8 of the *Fire Lands Pioneer*. The party, about midnight, drove up to the house of the Squire, and, with a loud rap, roused his honor, who, lifting the latch string, asked, "What is the matter?" "Squire, we want to be married," was the response. "Well, then, stand up in the wagon," said the Squire. "John, do you and Sally want to be married?" Response—"We do." "Do you make this request of your own free will?" "We do," was the prompt reply. "I, then, in the name of God, pronounce you man and wife. Drive on." It is true, I say, that they were not usually so informal as to ceremony, but they had a plain matter of fact way of doing things that showed most plainly their intensity of purpose.

IN WAR AND REBELLION.

Their patriotism was without a shadow. In the war of 1812 they bore perils and losses with resignation and courage, and after years of peace and prosperity, in which they had incurred the suspicions and resentments of slavery by their assistance given to the oppressed in perilous adventures and sacrifices on the underground railroad, they came face to face with the attempt of this same slave power to destroy the Union they loved so well. The scenes and sacrifices of that war are vivid in the memories of you all, and it is enough for me to say that the children of the pioneers honored their homes and country by their courage and devotion, and that they have left a record of which any land might well be proud. The graves of the dead are the Meccas of Freedom, while the living are the trusted friends and honored citizens of the communities in which they live. One incident of the war, coming under my own observation, will illustrate the sentiment of the times, a sentiment born of the truth, as it had been here taught to their children and children's children. One summer day, down in the Shenandoah valley, a soldier boy lay dying. His comrades had laid him beneath the shade of a tree, his head reclining against its trunk. "Have you any word for the loved ones at home?" they said. "Tell my mother that I died for God and my country." There is the patriot's creed, God, mother, country.

PATIENCE AND FAITH.

Two other characteristics I desire to mention, which seem to me to be intimately blended. Their patient suffering and their sublime faith in God. It is here that the faith and love of the wife and mother shed their holy light. It is admitted that suffering develops the strength of woman's heart, and never has this fact of her nature been more perfectly illustrated than in the distress through which she passed and the hardships

that she endured in the home of the pioneer. Take an instance or two from the long, sad record of her trials. "A young man and his family settled not far from the Huron river, building his cabin in the thick woods, distant from any other settlement. During the summer he cleared a small patch, and in the autumn fell sick and died. Soon after a hunter, on his way home, passing by the clearing, and seeing everything still about the cabin, suspected all was not right, and knocked at the door to enquire. A feeble voice bade him enter. Opening the door, he was startled by the appearance of a woman sitting by the fireplace, pale, emaciated, and holding in her arms a puny, sickly babe. He immediately enquired their health. She burst into tears, and was unable to answer. The hunter stood for a moment aghast at the scene. The woman, recovering from her gush of sorrow, at length raised her head and pointed toward the bed, saying, "There is my little Edward—I expect he is dying; and here is my babe, so sick that I cannot lay it down. I am so feeble I can scarcely sit in my chair, and my poor husband lies buried beside the cabin. Oh, that I were back to my own country, where I could fall into the arms of my mother." Tears rolled down the weather-beaten cheeks of the iron-framed hunter, as he rapidly walked away for assistance.

SICKNESS AND PRIVATION.

Ofttimes sickness prevailed to such an extent that there would not be enough well ones to care for the sick. Dr. Tilden, a pioneer physician, tells of making a visit where he found a dead child in a family, who knew nothing of their loss until he told them. They were all so sick themselves that they could not care for each other. Of other trials and dangers, one incident in the life of Aunt Polly Pierce will illustrate their courage. She had been on a visit to her father-in-law's, and while there they had supplied her with a large loaf of corn bread and some other provisions. When returning, and within a half mile of her shanty, the half-grown dog that was with her ran before her and curled down at her feet. Looking around, she saw a large bear, that evidently was after the bread and other provisions that had been given her. Nothing daunted, the bread and bowl of provisions under one arm and the dog under the other, and closely followed by the bear, she trudged on to her shanty.

THE SUSTAINING VIRTUE.

It was their faith in God that made them heroic in the midst of these trials; a faith like that of the Puritan fathers; a faith that removed mountains, and to the strong arm of which nothing was impossible; a faith that turned every event into a providence, every providence into a lesson, and every lesson into a blessing; a faith which comforted them in their loneliness, cheered them when their loved ones went away, and opened for them at last the gates of the eternal home. They needed no elaborate proof of the existence

of God and the truth of his promises. They just believed it all.

As my friend, Mr. Wildman, in his address at Centerton, gave you a view of the character of the red men found here by the early white settlers, so, following up his thought, I have been looking at those who followed them in the possession of these lands, and so I have sought to present and illustrate some of the qualities of head and heart that adorned and gave success to the lives of the settlers of the Fire Lands. We can but say of them, they were a noble people.

And distance will lend a new fascination to the story of their hardships. More and more will the mementoes and stories you have gathered increase in interest, exciting the wonder and taxing the credulity of coming generations to whom these stories of pioneer life will sound like the most extravagant creations of fancy. The most of these fathers and mothers are gone. When they came, comforts were unknown and necessaries were scarce. They battled not only to keep the wild beast of the forest from their door, but the fierce wolf of hunger as well. Their first homes were rude log cabins, with one room and a rough floor, and sometimes none at all; but when they went to their rest the land was filled with plenty, and beautiful homes, villages and cities of wealth and taste had risen as monuments of their industry and enterprise. But they have passed to an infinitely better inheritance. Some of them yet linger, with their faith, examples and prayers, among us. May it be much later when the Master calls them. We love them, and we need them; for to us their lives are an inspiration to self-sacrifice and unselfish devotion to God and Humanity.

HISTORY OF A VANISHED SETTLEMENT.

BY A. W. HENDRY.

Somewhat earlier than the year 1838 a settlement was commenced by colored people within the township of Portland, and within the present city limits of Sandusky, then about two miles from the city, in a southeasterly direction, and across Pipe Creek.

This locality, while the settlement remained, was known as "Africa," because the settlers were colored men.

Samuel Car and Frederick Swears were the first settlers.

Mr. Car's house and place was on the bank of the creek, his business was that of a gardener, and he found a market for the products of his garden in the city.

His neighbor, Swears, whose house and place was on the land now occupied by Maloney's farm, was engaged in general farming, and often raised twenty acres of corn in a season, with other kinds of grain. He also raised and kept a large number of cattle and hogs.

The most of this land beyond the creek was overgrown with brush and small timber, being second growth. The brush was cleared away and small log cabins built for houses, and their fields and cultivated grounds were enclosed with brush and pole fences. But few of the cabins were built upon the road, and the way of reaching them was by foot paths leading through the undergrowth from one cabin to another.

ABOUT THE SETTLERS.

Among the settlers were Isaac Brown and Thomas Butler. They first settled near Pipe creek, and afterwards purchased fifty acres of land of John Beatty in Perkins township, the same being part of the farm now owned by James Hinde, which they cleared up and improved with buildings and orchards. Mr. Butler sold out his interest in the fifty acres to Brown, who became sole proprietor, and was for many years the only colored landed proprietor among the settlers. He remained on this farm until about the year 1850, when he sold out and removed to Canada.

Among the other settlers were Basil Brown, who came in 1836, George Robinson, John Hamilton, Benjamin Hill, Moses Thompson, William Thomas, George Car, John Stoaks, Ben Johnson, Peter Gregg, two men named Jones, Samuel Floyd, William Butler, Benjamin Bell, Wil-

liam Harris, James Jackson, Dick Lett and one Glinton.

The above named individuals were nearly all heads of families.

Rev. Thomas H. Boston, (or, as he was familiarly called, "Brother Boston,") settled there in 1839.

About the year 1843 the colored people of this settlement numbered in all over one hundred souls.

THEIR INSTITUTIONS AND PASTORS.

They built a log school house, which was also used for a church, and for sometime maintained a school, of their own, and employed a colored man by the name of Robinson, from Rhode Island, to teach the school.

A Sabbath school was also kept up by some benevolent and Christian people going out from the city, and who acted as teachers therein.

A regular church organization was likewise maintained by the community known as the African Methodist Episcopal Church.

Elder Austin Jones, of Lancaster, Ohio, was the first presiding elder over this church, and took charge of the same in 1841. Pleasant Underwood was the next presiding elder. he resided at Mount Pleasant, Ohio, and assumed charge of the church in 1842. Mr. Underwood will be remembered as the person on whom one Fisher, connected with the County Infirmary, made a brutal assault. Dr. Stanley, of Sandusky, knowing Underwood to be a harmless, inoffensive man, published through the press several articles in relation to the affair, and caused Fisher to be prosecuted, and for this offense he was finally dismissed from the infirmary.

In September, 1843, Rev. Thomas H. Boston severed his connection with the African Methodist Episcopal Church on account of some differences of opinion which he held on the subject of slavery, and united with the Wesleyan Methodists, and was ordained an Elder in that church at Troy, Miami county, and assumed charge of the Colored Wesleyan Methodist Church in Sandusky City, and continued with same for a period of ten years.

HOMICIDE IN AFRICA.

An unfortunate occurrence happened among some of the colored people near this settlement in the month of November, 1844. One William Johnson, a colored man, was living in a log cabin on the east side of the Milan road, just beyond the stone quarries. A white man by the name of Philo, and some other white men with him, wished to obtain possession of the cabin in which Johnson was living. On the evening of the 19th of November, 1844, these men went to the house with the intention of seizing it. There was a colored man by the name of Gilchrist stopping at the time with Johnson and his familty. Johnson and Gilchrist pursued Asahel Philo and the other intruders east from the house, through a thick undergrowth, and Gilchrist, coming up with Philo, stabbed him with a knife and killed him. His body was found next morning about forty rods east of the Milan road,

bearing the marks of his deadly encounter with the colored man.

PURSUIT, CAPTURE AND TRIAL.

An alarm was soon given, and a large number of people from the city turned out in pursuit of the colored murderer. Every nook and corner of the whole region of country, every hiding place that could shield a human being from sight, was examined and re-examined during the day. Night had nearly come, and the search thus far had proved fruitless. At a later hour, the fugitive, whose hiding place had been in a straw stack near the Milan road, was found, arrested, and taken to jail. He was indicted in the Court of Common Pleas of Erie county for the crime of murder.

P. R. Hopkins, C. B. Squire and E. B. Saddler were appointed special Prosecuting Attorneys, and the Court assigned J. R. Osborn, Joseph M. Root, Ebenezer Lane and W. F. Converse as counsel for the defense.

Gilchrist, after a while, pleaded guilty to the charge of manslaughter, and was sentenced to nine years imprisonment in the Penitentiary by M. R. Tilden, then Presiding Judge.

William Johnson, the occupant of the house, was indicted for aiding and abetting said murder, but, on being tried by a jury, was acquitted.

LAND TITLES OF THE SETTLERS.

A large majority of these colored people had been slaves in the Southern States, and were consequently poorly prepared to purchase and pay for the lands they occupied. The title to these lands being in dispute between the original proprietors, these people had settled and made their small improvements, undisturbed and unmolested by the proprietors of the soil. The rights to the land were held as claims, and their value depended upon the improvements, they being bought and sold, giving to the purchaser the right of present occupancy.

Poor in the possession of this world's goods, happy and contented with the measure of freedom enjoyed, these colored settlers fully realized that

> "Man wants but little here below,
> Nor wants that little long."

THE CRUELTIES OF LAW.

The legislation of Ohio, said to have been dictated by slave holders, had become the subject of just complaint. As early as 1804 the Legislature of Ohio passed an act that no black or mulatto person should be permitted to settle in Ohio without a certificate of his freedom. Another law, passed in 1807, declared that no negro or mulatto person should be permitted to emigrate into, or settle in this State, unless he should give a bond, with two freehold sureties, in the sum of five hundred dollars, conditioned for his good behavior, and his support in case he should become a township charge. All persons were forbidden to employ such colored persons unless they had given the required bond. By the same act, section 9, they were not permitted to testify or give evidence in a court of justice where a white man was party to a suit.

But a regular fugitive slave law was passed by the Legislature of Ohio in 1839, by which an escaped slave, or any party claimed as such, could be arrested and returned to slavery. By law the colored people were not permitted to vote, nor to send their children to the common schools.

In 1850 Congress passed the fugitive slave law, because such a law was demanded by the Southernors for the protection of their so-called negro property, though it was very obnoxious to all fair-minded people of the North.

Greeley, in his "American Conflict," says of it: "The activity and universality of slave hunting, under the act of 1850 was most remarkable. Within the first year of its existence more persons were probably seized as fugitive slaves than during the preceding sixty years."

EXODUS OF THE FUGITIVES.

Under the most discouraging circumstances this community near Sandusky had persevered against all the adverse earlier legislation by the State. But a majority of them having been slaves, their condition had now become critical in the extreme, the chances being that they might at any time be returned to slavery. Now, indeed, was the beginning of the end. Here were children, mothers and fathers, whose condition of freedom at any moment might be terminated by the strong arm of the law.

The suspense at length became intolerable, and from the homes, which their own hands had made and hewn out of a wilderness, the greater part of them turned their faces towards Canada, and in a short time their cabins were deserted, their cultivated fields became desolate, and not a colored inhabitant remained. It may not be inapt to close this brief chronicle of their vanished settlement with some lines from Goldsmith's "Deserted Village:"

"Ill fares the land, to hastening ills a prey,
Where wealth accumulates and men decay;
Princes and lords may flourish or may fade,
A breath can make them as a breath has made;
But a bold peasantry, their country's pride,
When once destroyed can never be supplied."

BENJAMIN SUMMERS.

A LIFE SKETCH—BY P. N. SCHUYLER.

Though a feeling of sadness is to some extent inseparable from the mortuary record, yet, when in the ripeness of life and the rich development of the higher qualities of mind and heart a loved one is called to his reward, we can hardly restrain a feeling akin to triumph that the dangers of life are passed, and the haven of rest, safety and home are finally assured.

Benjamin Summers was of revolutionary stock. His parents were from Newtown, Fairfield county, Conn., where his ancestry had resided for three generations. His grandfather, Benjamin Summers, was the son of Samuel Summers, and was one of a family of nine sons and three daughters. These nine brothers appear to have been prominent in their region, and some of them were remarkable for their daring and physical strength. His said ancestor, Benjamin, served with distinction in the old French war. He was too old for general service during the Revolution, but was active in getting up recruits, was in command of a company of Silver Gray minute men, and was out in the service at the time the British were chased to their shipping after the burning of Fairfield, Danbury and Norwalk.

Mark Summers, the father of our Benjamin, was born May 21, 1765, at Newtown, Conn. He married Dinah Botsford, also of Newtown, and in 179– fixed his home among the rough hills of Middletown, Delaware county, N. Y. Here the subject of this sketch, Benjamin Summers, was born May 21, 1801, being just 36 years junior to his father. In his ninth year he was sent back to the old family home at Newtown, that he might attend school; thither, also, his parents removed soon after, in order to educate their children. They remained there seven or eight years. In the meantime Benjamin had acquired "a good common school education, and a couple of years in Latin, mathematics and surveying."

In the fall of 1817 Mark Summers and his family removed to the west, arriving at their home on the Fire Lands November 11th, 1817, after a journey of forty days into the wilderness, and pitching their tent in Vermillion township. The land which he had purchased, 340 acres, lay in Jessup — now Florence — township.

It was a little too far in the woods, and to be nearer to neighbors they bought a half lot in Vermillion, which spot became a permanent home of the family. One inducement, also, to buy the half lot was that there was a clearing of two or three acres and a dwelling house thereon. The dwelling house was a log hut of one story and one room, and they "moved in with the family occupying, making in all fifteen in one "room, and two hired men most of "the time, to boot!"

Benjamin taught the district school part of the winter of 1819, and occasionally afterwards. In the winter of 1824-5 he clerked in a store in Milan, and was married July 1, 1826, to Miss Olive Stevens, recently from Sheffield, Mass. She died on the 20th of December following. Mr. Summers married his second wife, Miss Julia Barr, April 4, 1827. She also, like his former wife, had had the advantages of New England education. Mr. Summers' health was never very firm, and soon after his arrival in the west he was afflicted with rheumatism, which partially disabled him for years. He succeeded, however, very well in business, and soon became a leading man in his community—filled various offices, was justice of the peace three terms, and in the winter of 1837 was, by the State Legislature, elected Associate Judge of Huron county. Summers was a Whig, and the Legislature by which he was elected was Democratic. The office was unsolicited and unexpected by him, and it seems to have been secured by the management of a personal friend in the Legislature. His election gave great offense to the local Democracy, but not for any fault of his except his politics. That was reason enough, and a great "political row" was raised over the matter. Judge Summers took his seat at the March term, 1837. At the legislative session of 1838-39, the Democrats being in power, set off to Erie county what is now its eastern portion, and thus Judge Summers was, as the Democrats claimed, legislated out of office, he, by the change in county lines, being no longer a resident of Huron county. Various legal questions were raised, but Judge Summers and Judge Choate of Milan —whose case was similar—continued to act as Associate Judges of Huron county. The question of their right to that office was taken to the Supreme Court on *quo warranto*, where a difference of opinion was found to exist. Finally, after some two years, a political change gave the Democrats a majority in the Supreme Court, and Summers and Choate were ousted. These gentlemen, having been most unjustly abused politically, it was determined by their friends to test the matter further in politics, and, at the solicitation of his party friends, Judge S. consented to be the Whig candidate of his district for Representative in the Legislature. He was elected in 1844, and re-elected in 1845, and was by his friends asked to be a candidate for State Senator in 1846, but he declined the nomination. It "did not pay" in any sense; and

he very much disliked the cabaling, intrigue and "tin-pan" which seemed almost inseparable from, or, at least, too much practiced in, political life.

From this period Mr. Summers was a prominent man, but preferred private life, was successful in his business as a farmer, also keeping up with the times in his reading and observation of men and things. His health also seemed firmer, and he realized the ease of competence and the happiness of home. He was among the early members of the Fire Lands Historical Society, filled various offices in the same from time to time, was one of its efficient supporters, and furnished various contributions for its magazine.

GENERAL CHARACTERISTICS.

His temperament was nervous-bilious. Much suffering from headaches and bilious ailments interfered with his common labors and literary pursuits. He had a great thirst for knowledge, but his reading was directed to no definite end. He had a general knowledge on most subjects, but was not a proficient in any. So, likewise, in his farm labors and improvements. He cleared much new land, erected buildings and ornamented his grounds, but there was an evidence of "unfinish," and he would engage in new improvements before the old was completed, was greatly delighted with a sort of new creation, took more pleasure in clearing a fresh field than in cultivating an old one, and the successful introduction or production of a new and superior fruit, grain, or ornamental tree, gave him a pleasure far beyond its money value. He was generally ahead in new enterprises, but some later competitor would outdo in finish while he was entering upon a new project. He was not visionary or reckless, however, but cautious, and commonly succeeded in whatever he undertook. Though not a read lawyer, he had a pretty good knowledge of legal principles, and his views on legal questions were much respected and sought for by his neighbors. He was just, punctual and forbearing in his dealings and intercourse, firm where duty required, but yielding where no principle would be sacrificed, hence he was the uncompromising enemy of slavery and of every pretext for oppression, a reliable friend, a rather "inconvenient enemy," an accommodating neighbor, and kind and indulgent in his domestic relations, somewhat skeptical in religion, and, tho' yielding to the general belief in an all-wise and powerful Great First Cause, he could never bring his mind to embrace the details of orthodoxy. In early life he delighted in religious controversy, but in later years he disliked it, as a meddling with the views of others, where each has an equal right of opinion, and where little good can come from disputation.

Advancing years enfeebled the health of himself and wife. They therefore sold the old homestead and removed to Berlin Heights, where they resided two or three years, until the decease of his wife, on November 19th, 1874. By this event his home was broken up, his health also became

greatly impaired, and for the last ten months of his life he was a "suffering invalid." This final period was spent with his children, whose homes were "far away from the Fire Lands," and he departed this life at the residence of his daughter, wife of Rev. G. H. Hartupee, at Mansfield, O., August 11th, A. D. 1875.

THE OLD GRIST MILL.

BY R. H. STODDARD.

The grist mill stands beside the stream,
With bending roof and leaning wall,
So old that when the winds are wild
The miller trembles lest it fall;
But the moss and ivy, never sere,
Bedeck it o'er from year to year.

The dam is steep, and welded green;
The gates are raised, the waters pour
And tread the old wheel's slippery steps,
The lowest round for evermore,
Methinks they have a sound of ire,
Because they cannot climb up higher.

From morn till night, in autumn time,
When heavy harvests load the plains,
Up drive the farmers to the mill,
And back anon with loaded wains;
They bring a heap of golden grain,
And take it home in meal again.

The mill inside is dim and dark,
But peeping in the open door,
You see the miller flitting round,
And dusty bags along the floor;
And by the shaft and down the spout,
The yellow meal comes pouring out.

And all day long the winnowed chaff
Floats round it on the sultry breeze,
And shineth like a setting swarm
Of golden-winged and belted bees;
Or sparks around a blacksmith's door,
When bellows blow and forges roar.

I love the pleasant, quaint old mill!
It 'minds me of my early prime;
'Tis changed since then, but not so much
As I am by decay and time;
Its wrecks are mossed from year to year,
But mine all dark and bare appear.

I stand beside the stream of life;
The mighty current sweeps along,
Lifting the flood-gates of my heart,
It turns the magic wheel of song,
And grinds the ripening harvest brought
From out the golden field of thought.

OLD AND YOUNG.

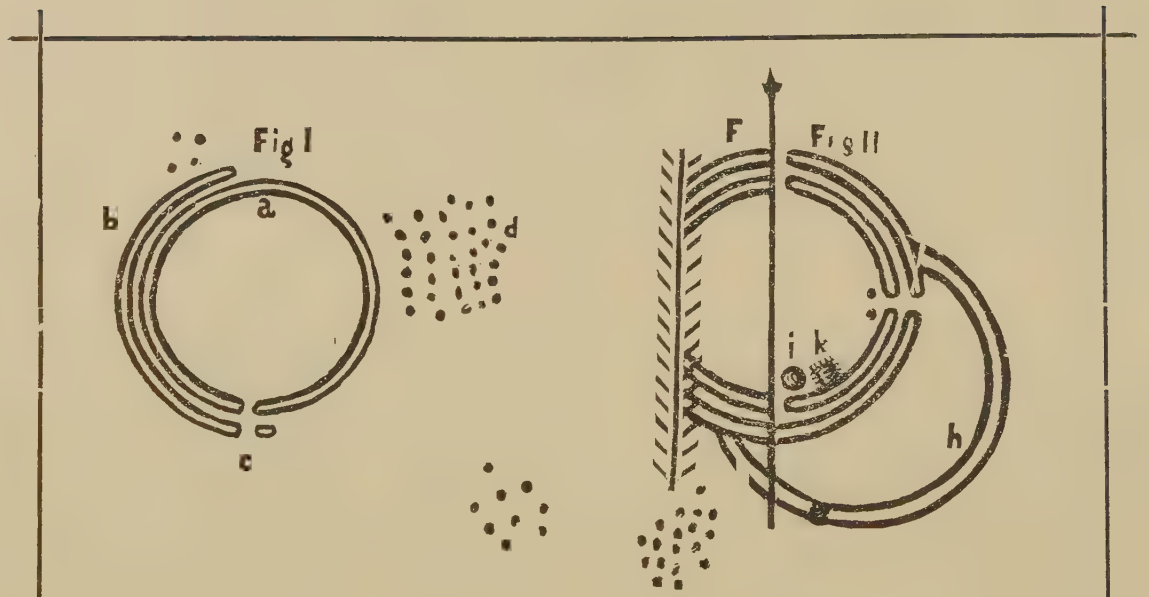
BY C. P. CRANCH.

I.

They soon grow old who grope for gold
In marts where all is bought and sold;
Who live for self and on some shelf
In darkened vaults hoard up their pelf,
Cankered and crushed all o'er with mold.
For them their youth itself is old.

II.

They ne'er grow old who gather gold
Where Spring awakes and flowers unfold;
Where suns arise in joyous skies,
And fill the soul within their eyes.
For them the immortal bards have sung;
For them old age itself is young!



REMAINS OF OLD INDIAN WORKS ON THE HURON RIVER, A. D. 1789.

INDIAN WORKS ON THE HURON.

FROM AN OLD MAGAZINE.

[The following interesting particulars of some old Indian works on the Huron River, and the plan accompanying, are taken from the pages of *The Columbian Magazine*, a venerable periodical current at Philadelphia during the infancy of the Republic. They are to be found in Vol. III, pages 543-4, and were supplied to us for republication through the courtesy of C. C. Baldwin, Esq., of Cleveland, Corresponding Secretary of the Western Reserve and Northern Ohio Historical Society, who himself made the extracts. The precise form and quantity of the original are retained, including even the writer's quaint suggestions on the "Indian problem," as it then presented itself, and as, indeed, it has survived to our own time. The engraving, which is sufficiently exact, was prepared for this volume of the PIONEER by a Norwalk amateur. The works themselves have probably been long since obliterated by the plowshare.—ED. PIONEER.]

Account of Some Old Indian Works on the Huron River, with a Plan of Them, Taken the 28th day of May, 1789, by Abraham G. Steiner.

The annexed Draught is a Plan of two old Fortifications, supposed to have formerly been made by the Indians. They are situated on the East Side of Huron River, on BALD EAGLE CREEK, about twenty Miles East of Sandusky, whereof *Fig. I.* is about eight Miles distant from Lake Erie South, and *Fig. II.* eleven Miles.

Fig. I. is a Level on a rising Ground, about eighty Rods distant from the Huron, surrounded with a circular earthen Wall (*a*), round which is another earthen Wall (*b*), which forms a Semi-circle, beginning South, a little to the East, and ending North. Round each of the Walls is a Ditch, from four to six Feet broad, adjoining each Wall, in the deepest Places of which Water was standing.

The Walls are from three and a half to five Feet high, reckoned from the Depth of the Ditch; and at the Foot thereof from seven to eight Feet thick. The Distance of both the Walls is 24 Feet.

South is a Way (*c*) through both the Walls and over the Ditches. The Ditches are filled there, and the Walls made level.

The Enclosure between the inner Wall, which is quite level, is 300 Feet in Diameter, and no Vestage of any Buildings are to be seen there.

E. N. E. are 32 Graves (*d*), each 60, 80, and more Feet in Circumference, partly circular, and partly otherwise, of three to four Feet in Height.

They begin somewhat regular, at a Distance of five Feet from the outside of the Ditch, but farther on become irregular.

N. N. W. are four Graves more, of the same Form and Size.

Fig. II. is situated E. N. E. of Fig. 1, about two Miles in a straight Line, not far from the Huron, and is a Level like the first, surrounded with Walls and Ditches.

West is a narrow, deep Dale (*e*), in which runs a little Stream, and in which two circular Walls (*f*) begin and end. The Space in the inner Circle is of the same Diameter as in Fig. I.; the Walls are of the same Thickness and Height, and the Ditches of the same Depth and Width. There are three ways (*g*) East, South and North over both the Ditches and through the Walls.

Southeast is another somewhat irregular circular Wall (*h*), with a Ditch beginning and ending on the outside Wall, so as to include the East and South Way. In the Space of the inner Circle, near the Southern Entry, is a circular Elevation (*i*) about two Feet and a half high, adjoining the Wall; and adjoining this Circle is an elevated Square Point about two Feet high.

Southwest are many large, circular, and irregular Graves (*l*), very near the Works; and somewhat further in the same Direction many more.

Both the Places, together with the Walls, Ditches, and Graves, are covered with Bushes and Trees of 18 Inches or more Diameter, and one dead Oak, standing over one of the Graves, was two Feet in Diameter.

The Ditches, in the deepest Parts of them, were full of Water. The Soil thereabouts is a very tough whitish Clay, covered with a light black Mould, and the most common are White Oak, Beech, and the Linden Tree. It is remarkable that the Graves at both Forts point to each other, which make it appear as if two Enemies had been opposed to each other, and that at different Attacks numbers were killed, and afterwards buried near the Works, at the place of the Slaughter. The Indians, thereabouts, who are chiefly Chippewas, Delawares and Wyandots, are of the Opinion that these Works, and many others, were formerly made by Indians, before any White People came to the Country; at a Time when the Nations always were at War with each other.

They have no certain Tradition as to what Nation they might have been, but they say they must have been quite a different People from the present Indians. The Bones found in the Graves and other Places far exceed in Size and Largeness the Bones of the tallest Indians at present.

The Indians say likewise that the Ditches and Walls were made with

Shoulder Blades of Deer and Elk, which were used as Shovels. In one of the Graves was a Hole made by a Ground Hog. The Indian who guided me there told me that such Holes are oftentimes found in Graves, and hence many Indians think that after Death they will be transformed into Ground Hogs.

The Western Country abounds with Remains of such old Works. This must give us a grand Idea of the former Strength of the Aborigines in this Country. Now they seem to lose every Year in their Numbers.

What the Cause of this can be, let the Learned decide; but there are several plain Reasons, some of which I will assign:

First—The Nations seem to have been in a continual State of Warfare among Themselves in former Times, and do at present greatly mistrust one another and the White People.

Second—The Indians to the present Day, for far the greater Part, live in an uncivilized Manner.

Third—It is but too true that if we and our Fathers desire to conceal our Shame from Posterity, History must draw a Veil over the Conduct of Foreigners toward their tawny Brethren in America, made of the same Clay with themselves.

AUNT HANNAH'S ADVICE.

And so you have quarreled with David?
And, hide it as well as you can,
I know at this moment you're thinking
That he is a horrible man.
He has no regard for your feelings,
He loosens his hold on your heart,
And each has confessed to the other,
That both were much better apart.

You think of the days of your courtship,
When David was thoughtful and kind,
In all your vexations so helpful,
To all of your follies so blind.
And now o'er the gateway of Eden,
The sword of the angel is crossed,
And you miss all the sweetness and sunshine,
The joy of a Paradise lost.

You think you have done all your duty,
Have prayed and have labored in vain,
And feel, as a husband, that David
Has really no right to complain.
But let us sit down in the twilight,
And talk o'er the subject a while;
Before you take leave of the meadow,
'Tis well that you pause on the stile.

'Tis likely that David is fretful,
And careless at times, it is true;
His business absorbs him too closely,
But is he not working for you?
So when he comes home in the evening,
Quite silent, and thoughtful, and queer,
Just let your heart keep up its singing,
And pretend you don't notice, my dear.

For just as a scratch on the finger
Will heal if you let it alone,
So many a trouble or grievance
That David or you may have known
Would soon have been gone and forgotten,
And left not a scar on the heart,
Had either been fond or forgiving,
Had you never supposed you could part.

'Tis your duty to yield, and you know it,
You will, if you're true to your trust;
Your God and your honor demand it,
And David is gentle and just.
Don't keep any bones of contention;
Don't hold to this terrible strife;
But make him a much better husband
By being a much better wife.

LIFE AND CHARACTER OF JOHN H. NILES.

BY C. WOODRUFF.

The historian of the Pioneer Society has seldom been called upon to sketch the life and character of a more worthy representative of the organization than John H. Niles. Few there are among its most zealous promoters who have done more to encourage the preservation of the relics of by-gone days, or written more to enrich the pages of our publications. Peculiarly adapted by taste for investigating remains of historic interest, and combining the advantages of extensive reading and patient research, he was enabled to contribute a large share of the invaluable material which this Society has treasured up. He was among the first to suggest and most persistent in urging on the work of its organization, and ever after manifested an interest and solicitude in its prosperity that were little short of parental regard.

Though not among the first to unbar the doors of this land to civilization, he came in good time to mark the footsteps and observe the trail of those who had. If he was without all the experience of those who literally blazed their way into this country, right well he knew the story and could keep alive the memory of those who first broke this boundless contiguity of shade. The themes of "ye olden times," so precious and engrossing to the heart of the veteran pioneer, found their fullest expression in the pen of J. H. Niles. He was a representative specimen of a New England Yankee, and justified the universally recognized trait of that race by asking more questions than many had the means of answering. By this means he was always picking up scraps of interest and information from neglected sources, and applying them to the vindication of some of his cherished theories. He belonged to that school of philosophy that hold to the doctrine that many little truths combine to establish a great one. Though not a scholar, his familiarity with some of the natural sciences appeared almost intuitive, and he seemed never to tire in the pursuit of knowledge. His diligent study and close observation of the habits of pestiferous insects that now prey with increasing destruction on the husbandman's resources, gave to his opinions more than an ordinary degree of importance. He was the first in this sec-

tion to call public attention to the inevitable advent among us of the Colorado potato beetle. In a communication to the press, he seemed to foreshadow their career before the scouts of that destructive host had crossed the Mississippi river. More than 40 years ago he confidently predicted the destruction of the plum fruit by the ravages of the curculo. In an early day he gave a few public lectures upon the science of botany. These were addressed to his own neighbors, and afforded them much new and valuable information. He lost some prestige, however, among the farmers, by repudiating the theory that wheat turned to chess, and by occasionally expressing a doubt of the doctrine that the moon was responsible for so many of the farmers' failures.

Though eminently a man of peace, Mr. Niles greatly enjoyed a sharply contested discussion, and he was not averse to lending a helping hand himself to push on an intellectual contest. The writer of this sketch well recollects, when a boy, to hear the old log schoolhouse in Mr. N.'s district ring with primitive eloquence and homebred argument on the respective merits of the "printing press and mariner's compass," "art and nature," "Washington and Lafayette." J. H. Niles, Peter Brown and W. H. Vanhorn were usually the ordnance of these engagements, and unless the reigning pedagogue was competent to take the fourth position in the quadrilateral, the result of the question was conceded before the debate opened.

Mr. Niles always took an active interest in the common schools of the township, and his good sense was ever at the service of the cause. He was repeatedly called to act in a public capacity in his township; for twelve years was a Justice of the Peace, and for six years a County Commissioner, being first elected as such in 1857.

Mr. Niles was born in Halifax, Vermont, the 25th of June, 1809, and came to this county in 1831. He came to Greenfield, where he remained till 1834, when he settled in Norwich, where he ever after lived. He commenced life as a mechanic in a chair factory, taught school after he first came to Ohio, and subsequently purchased land and made a farm, where he resided until his death, February 14th, 1878.

In 1836 he married Miss Marion P. Nichols, by whom he had eleven children, eight of whom are now living. He never had a hardy constitution like many, but by carefully studying the requirements of his own system, he was able to contribute a good deal of physical as well as mental force to the duties of life. His New England habits, modes of expression, and currents of sympathy, were the prominent features in his character. Though a man of clear, firm and settled convictions on all the moral questions of the day, he was not disposed to question the sincerity of those who might differ with him, or hastily reject the claims of opposite theories. If not a professed Christian, his example in morality,

temperance and Christian charity was worthy of all commendation. Unassuming in his manners and retiring in his habits he was yet extremely sociable and genial in his intercourse with others. Scrupulously exact in business matters, but generous to the wants of those around him, a kind and affectionate husband and father, an obliging neighbor, a worthy citizen, he has left a reputation alike gratifying to his friends and honorable to his associates.

THE GOLDEN MILESTONE.

BY H. W. LONGFELLOW.

Leafless are the trees, their purple branches
Spread themselves abroad, like reefs of coral,
Rising silent
In the Red Sea of the winter sunset.

From the haunted chimneys of the village,
Like the Afreet in the Arabian story,
Smoky columns
Tower aloft into the air of amber.

At the window winks the flickering firelight;
Here and there the lamps of evening glimmer,
Social watchfires
Answering one another through the darkness.

On the hearth the lighted logs are glowing,
And like Ariel in the cloven pine tree,
For its freedom
Groans and sighs the air imprisoned in them.
By the fireside there are old men seated,
Seeing ruined cities in the ashes,
Asking sadly
Of the past what it can ne'er restore them.

By the fireside there are youthful dreamers,
Building castles fair, with stately stairways,
Asking blindly
Of the future what it cannot give them.

By the fireside tragedies are acted,
In whose scenes appear two actors only—
Wife and husband,
And above them God, the sole spectator.

By the fireside there are peace and comfort;
Wives and children, with fair, thoughtful faces,
Waiting, watching,
For a well-known footstep in the passage.

Each man's chimney is his Golden Milestone;
Is the central point from which he measures
Every distance
Through the gateways of the world around him.

In his farthest wanderings still he sees it,
Hears the talking flame, the answering night wind,
As he heard them
When he sat with those who were, but are not.

Happy he whom neither wealth nor fashion,
Nor the march of the encroaching city
Drives an exile
From the hearth of his ancestral homestead.

We may build more splendid habitations,
Fill our rooms with paintings and with sculptures,
But we cannot
Buy with gold the old associations!

MONROEVILLE, PAST AND PRESENT.

FROM A SPECIAL CORRESPONDENCE OF THE CLEVELAND HERALD, JUNE 21ST, 1878.

BY H. M. ADDISON.

The early pioneers of our country are fast passing away; the brave and hardy men and women, who, to secure homes for themselves and their posterity, came

"Where nothing dwelt but beasts of prey,
Or men as fierce and wild as they,"

and endured all the toils, privations, and dangers unavoidably connected with pioneer life. I always feel it a privilege and a duty to pay them a tribute of respect in every possible way, and to keep in remembrance their courageous bravery and patriotism. With this view I called on some of the first settlers of this pleasant little town. Monroeville has about 1,700 inhabitants, and is situated on the west branch of the Huron river, and the Lake Shore and Michigan Southern, which is here intersected by a branch of the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad, leading from Newark to Sandusky. Although Monroeville has some very fine buildings, on the whole it has a decidedly rural appearance. The houses are generally situated at irregular distances from each other, on large lots, shaded in some cases with native trees, some by carefully planted and cultivated maples and other trees, including many venerable apple-trees, some of which are over sixty years old. Here robins and various other native birds are almost as numerous, and sing as gaily as they ever do in the most rural districts, and are almost as tame as chickens.

The first house in this town was a log cabin, built in 1812 by William Frink, on one hundred acres of land, bought by him of Stephen Meeker, agent for the original owners, Thos. and Simon Couch, of Connecticut. Mr. Hamilton has in his possession the original article for said land, which, with two other documents he showed me, he keeps as relics of pioneer times. The Seth Brown named in them was his father-in-law. He was a native of Massachusetts, and shortly before the war of 1812 went to New Orleans, where he nearly died with the yellow fever. As soon as he felt able to travel he

started on foot, and through an almost unbroken wilderness, traveled the entire distance to the present site of Monroeville, with no baggage but a knapsack and a rifle, on which he relied for the twofold purpose of obtaining the means of subsistence and for defense. On his arrival here he traded his rifle, valued at $25, to William Frink for his claim to the tract of land and the cabin on it. His article was dated May 9, 1812. On the back of it is the following indorsement, which I copy *verbatim:*

March 27th, 1813. I Do hereby Certify that I William Frink Do sell to Seth Brown all my Right and title to the within Named fifth lot and the improvements on the same for Twenty-five Dollars. Recd. to my satisfaction * * * Witness my hand in the presents of

CHARLES PARKER,
DANIEL SHERMAN.

WILLIAM FRINK.

Mr. Brown gave his note for $200 for the original purchase price of the land, and received his deed for it December 18, 1813. Mr. Hamilton had that note and deed. In 1818 a new mill was built on the river, and the same year the first frame barn was built in the place. The frames of both are yet in good condition, and seem likely to remain so for many years to come. The old-fashioned "flutter wheel" in the mill has given place to the modern turbine, and corresponding running gear, and a mulay saw has taken the place of the clumsy sash saw and frame of olden time. Mr. Davis says he distinctly remembers—for he was then twelve years old—the particulars of a circumstance that occurred when that mill was being built, and only a short distance from it. In a small clearing in the woods, where is now one of the churches in about the center of the town, was a patch of corn in which was discovered a large bear taking his dinner. The workmen on the mill and the few men in the vicinity turned out with guns, pitchforks, axes, and any other means at hand, for defense or attack, and surrounded the corn patch at a respectful distance, while Seth Brown, with a gun, went in to commence an attack. Bruin evidently only wanted "to be left alone," like our secesh brethren in 1861. Mr. Brown came in sight of him and fired, but only wounded him slightly, upon which he promptly resented such interference with his operations, and Mr. Brown got out of the corn very suddenly, leaving his gun behind him, and with the bear bringing up the rear with unpleasant rapidity. Several dogs came to Mr. Brown's relief by making a flank movement, and the bear, seeing the odds against him, prudently retreated, but very imprudently climbed a high tree in the immediate vicinity, from which powder and lead soon brought him down much faster than he went up, and after a desperate fight with the dogs and men he was killed.

The earliest settlers suffered much from the hostility and brutality of the Indians. Some were shot from ambush, and in one case three persons

were taken captive, one a married woman, the others a boy and girl. The latter were ransomed after three years of captivity, but the former, being in a delicate condition that made it impossible for her to travel as fast as desired, was murdered in a manner too horrible to describe.

The first frame house built in Monroeville is yet standing, and is a very comfortable dwelling, accommodating two families.

This was once a great place for making whisky, having at one time four distilleries—one of them a very large one—running at their full capacity; but they are all among the things that were, and a single brewery is evidently near the same destiny. There is one bank here and several stores of various kinds; also some domestic manufactures of many articles of common use, but none of them extensive.

The Monroeville *Spectator*, edited by W. H. Wilkinson, is a lively and readable paper that deserves success.

There are six churches in this village, and a large and splendid public school building, located in a beautiful part of the village, and the quiet, orderly manner of the scholars on the streets argues well for their government both in school and at home, and is in strong contrast with what may be seen daily in some places. In April of last year a fire destroyed a large portion of the business part of Monroeville, only a portion of which has been rebuilt. A large flouring mill, with three run of stone, is run to its full capacity, part of the year by night as well as by day. A large woolen mill, two and a half stories high, with brick walls and slate roof—size of main building 164 feet by 53, and a store-house and office 30 by 50 feet, of the same height and kind of wall and roof, situated near the main building—was completed five years ago, and the day before it was to have been started, the Superintendent by mistake took a dose of strychnine for quinine, and in a few minutes was a corpse. The mill has never been started since, and is for sale on very favorable terms to the right kind of a man or company of men. There are five sets of carding machines, with spindles and looms to spin and weave the wool they can card, also an extra set of carding machines for custom work. The machinery is all of the best kind, and the engine and boiler ample for running it. The buildings stand on four and one-half acres of ground, and judges of such property say this is the best mill of the kind in the State. There is also a foundry, plow and machine shop, a fanning-mill factory, and a wagon and carriage factory; the three giving steady employment to about thirty men.

On the whole, Monroeville is a very desirable place to live in for honorable and industrious men, and having an excellent section of country surrounding it, its future prosperity, though it may not be rapid, will I think, be sure.

CAMP AVERY IN 1812.

A GLIMPSE INTO AN OLD CORRESPONDENCE.

In previous volumes of the *Pioneer* have been published some interesting memoirs of such incidents in the war of 1812 as transpired in the Fire-lands. The most stirring of these had reference to the contests with the Indians on the Peninsula, the troops who were engaged therein having been sent out from old Camp Avery, close to the present site of Milan. In the "Historical Collections" of the Mahoning Valley Society we find a most valuable chapter on the same period and events, and we use, without further acknowledgement, such portions of the same as have a local significance. The staple interest seems to lie in the correspondence of Lieutenant Benjamin Allen, of the Kinsman (Trumbull county) military company, whose letters to his young wife from this then frontier land bring up in vivid clearness those days of effort and of danger.

On receiving the intelligence of General Hull's surrender the whole west was thrown into a state of great excitement. Fears were entertained that the country would be overrun with the Indians. An order from Major-General Wadsworth, commanding the Fourth Division of Ohio militia, was received by Colonel Richard Hayes, of Hartford, directing him to notify the men of his regiment to at once make ready for military service, and assemble in their several companies at Kinsman on the 24th of August.

The regiment was composed of eight companies, from the following towns, viz: Hubbard, Vernon, Brookfield, Vienna, Kinsman, Williamsfield, Gustavus, Wayne, Johnson and Fowler. Of course, called together in such haste, they were variously equipped and poorly prepared to meet an enemy armed and officered as veterans. Some had the common hunting rifles, with powder horn and bullet pouch, others old arms of former wars, and some, again, only pikes and stout hay forks.

The destination of the regiment was unknown to the men, but the line of march was north. At Harpersfield, on the third day, General Perkins joined the troops, the command was reorganized, and a large number of the volunteers were sent back to guard the infant settlements. Thence the regiment moved along the Ridge road to Cleveland, and from that point the story of the

Kinsman company is told by Lieut. Allen, who was frequently in command thereof during the absence of its Captain, Jedediah Burnham.

First, at Harpersfield, August 28, 1812:

"This morning I start for Cleveland, one-half of regiment goes on with me. You need not fear any danger for yourself, nor I think apprehend much for me, for if we do not go further than Cleveland I do not believe we shall see the face of an enemy."

HEADQUARTERS,
CLEVELAND, August 30, 1812.

"To-morrow morning our detachment, under Col. Hayes and Gen. Perkins, march for Huron river.

I think you need have but little fear for my safety; from the best information the Indians will not dare to come this way in any considerable numbers on account of the Kentuckians and the inhabitants of the south part of the State, who are coming on like a whirlwind, and I sincerely hope will sweep them from the face of the American Territory."

CAMP PERKINS, Sept. 9, 1812.

"I was sent out in command of a small detachment the other day. Seymour Austin was my mate. We, having gone some miles, took a boat for the purpose of going to Sandusky Bay for some apples. Landed at the orchard where they were very plenty, got as many as we could eat, and put up several barrels to bring to camp. Afterward we concluded to go off into the lake and endeavor to get back some property which the Canadian French, who live on the island, had plundered from the inhabitants. We succeeded very well, although our detachment was small, and burnt a large English schooner because we could not get her off. We then returned to Sandusky Bay, where myself and three others went on shore for the purpose of cooking some dinner at the block-house near the orchard, while the others with the boat sailed round a long point. But we were ambuscaded by the Indians, and had to leave one of our number on the ground, a prey to savage brutality. The remainder escaped unhurt.

"It was the hand of Providence only which interfered and saved my life at this time, for the moment the gun flashed the man happened to dodge between me and the Indian. We made our escape to the boat with all our arms. We then had to row twenty miles against a head wind, and got to camp about midnight, where we were received with open arms by Gen. Perkins and all others, who from the time we had been absent, and some other circumstances, never expected to see us again. I only mention that I had ate nothing for about thirty-six hours."

"CAMP HURON, Sept. 12, 1812.

"I wrote you yesterday respecting our situation, and stated that a party had gone out to explore the ground from which I retreated a few days ago on the other side of Sandusky Bay. Contrary to my expectations, though not to my wishes, the command was given to me, with S. G.

Bushnel as my second. We started from Huron about dark; rowed and sailed all night. When we arrived at Sandusky, found the buildings on the Peninsula mostly on fire. Rowed in very near them, but did not think it prudent to land in the night. Next morning we again rowed in to the remains of the houses, but the landing being bad, thought best not to land; and immediately on our returning, before we were out of sight, the Indians set fire to two more houses. The block-house and all are burned. I send inclosed two certificates, one my own, as you will perceive, the other Captain Burnham's. The Captain's give immediately to Mr. Kinsman."

"ON THE BANK OF HURON RIVER, Sept. 18, 1812.

"We are now in the midst of an enemy's country, or rather enemies are in the midst of ours, and all around us. Night before last Benj. Newcomb's house was burned within seven miles of us. Last night Mr. Comstock's house, barn, etc., were burned two miles off, and yet we have not seen an Indian. I hope, however, by night there will be a good account given of some of the rascals. By to-morrow or next day we expect a re-enforcement of two companies from Colonel Rayne's regiment, which has been kept until this time for the purpose of guarding Cleveland. There has been nothing done by our men against the Indians, except what was done by the two companies with which I went to Sandusky Bay, and that was not much."

"SEPTEMBER 21ST.

"I was called in the afternoon to attend a disagreeable piece of business. Not to go against Indians, but against those who in justice ought to receive us as brothers with open arms. The outline of the business runs thus. Some of the inhabitants who fled from this part of the country had left a large quantity of salt stored, and a party of those that yet remained took possession of the salt with the intention of appropriating it to their own use, which our officers did not think justifiable, and accordingly sent a small party of men to take possession of it. But the inhabitants refused to let them have it, and threatened the whole detachment with destruction if they interfered. On the return of the men, Captain Burnham and myself took command of twenty volunteers and marched to the place, about eight miles, and there such profanity and abuse both of their Maker and our officers and soldiers I never before heard, and God grant I never may again. However, finding us determined to do our duty and not frightened, they came to terms, and the business was accomplished without bloodshed. There have been three white men killed and two men and one woman wounded in this part of the country since I wrote you last. Three Indians have been killed, three wounded, and several buildings burned. I hope we shall soon have men enough to do something more than just to maintain our ground against the rascals, for although they are not numerous in

these quarters, yet there are several lurking parties about, and as yet we have not been able to come up with them. B. Newcomb's house was burned a few days since. Mrs. Newcomb and one woman with her lay in the woods three nights fourteen miles from inhabitants. Such are the sufferings our frontier inhabitants have to meet. God grant that they may not be of long duration, though if Wadsworth commands I see not any probability of their ending soon. We have now about one hundred and eighty men."

"CAMP AVERY, Sept. 24, 1812.

"To-day I am a little indisposed as to health, though not seriously so. But perhaps you will not lament it when you know that *that* is all that prevents my standing second in command of about eighty men going to Sandusky Village, to be gone about a week, an expedition I have counted much on, but can not engage in.

As to our situation here suffice it to say that half of our bold warriors that crossed the Cuyahoga have returned back on account of their health. Captain Parker crossed with seventy men, and a few mornings since could number but nineteen fit for duty. But our encampment is now much better. The water is excellent—the first good water I have seen this side of Cleveland. The doctor (Allen) remains unwell, though gaining. . . . I have no news to write respecting the Indians. Since writing you last, a considerable number passed through Sandusky, but have gone to the south of us,"

"CAMP AVERY, Oct. 2, 1812.

"Our troops, I mentioned in my last letter, were going to Sandusky. They arrived there without injury, and were much pleased with their situation. Loaded their boats with fifty barrels of salt and sent them in, and sent on a request that the men might be permitted to remain at Sandusky Bay; and there was an express sent immediately to headquarters to that effect by Captain Hutchins. Captain Burnham went to Sandusky to take Captain Hutchins' place. Major Frazier commanded at Sandusky, and had about one hundred and thirty men in three companies.

"Sergeant Hamilton was sent about this time across Sandusky Bay to the Peninsula to make what discovery he could. On his arrival at the bay he found several of the inhabitants who had just been over to visit their effects, which they had deserted at the first alarm after the surrender of Detroit. They told him that they had discovered forty-seven Indians about one house, and the house was filled with Indians besides.

"Hamilton sent back for a re-enforcement. Captain Cotton was accordingly sent with about sixty to his aid. These, together with Hamilton's men, some inhabitants and some from on board our boats, made a detachment of nearly ninety men. They crossed the bay on the morning of the 29th, and landed on the other side and marched into the country in the direction in which the Indians had been seen, leaving a few men to guard the boats. About one hour

after their departure from the boats four large canoe loads of Indians were seen coming down the bay. They landed on a small island in the bay just above where our boats lay. Our boatmen thought they had best make their escape. They took two boats, leaving two, and made their escape to this side of the bay. The two boats which were left were immediately demolished by the Indians.

"All which was sent by express, and all we could do was to send off an express to them; and in this state of anxiety we remained until about twelve o'clock at night, when Robinson, an express, returned, and brought news that our two boats which made their escape had lain off the point of the Peninsula, and that about forty men, after fighting all day without anything to eat or drink, had made their escape to the boats, among whom was a number badly wounded; and that about forty men were left on the Peninsula either dead or surrounded by Indians. The Captain and Lieutenant, William Bartholomew, were seen with some men to make their retreat to a house, and were left surrounded by Indians. Such was the sad news brought to our camp at twelve o'clock at night.

"In this state of alarm a council was immediately called. It consisted of Major Shannon, Mr. Leslie, our chaplain, Captain Fobes, Robinson, and myself. The Colonel was at this time so sick that his life was almost despaired of. It was concluded to send an express to Sandusky with orders for an immediate retreat. Robinson agreed to perform the duty, and Mr. Leslie started to convey the sad news to headquarters.

"I at this time, in addition to taking the command of those remaining of our company, had to perform the adjutant's duty, when I made out the camp guard for the night, which consisted of only thirty-two men. It took every able-bodied man in the camp except those on guard the night before. In this situation, I went to work at the block-house and worked the remainder of the night, though I had been on guard the night before and had not slept at all.

"In the morning the men from the Peninsula came in, and, on questioning them, we found it the opinion of the best informed among them, that the men in the house would be able to defend themselves against the Indians so long as their strength would hold out. I accordingly got liberty to start with ten men and provisions sufficient to refresh those on the Peninsula should I find any alive there..

"On the morning of the 30th we went to the mouth of Huron river, six miles from camp, where we were detained all day for the want of a boat. However, about dark, two spies, whom I had sent out, returned with Sergeant Baily and Chester Allen, who had made their escape from the house (on the Peninsula), found an old canoe, in which they crossed the bay and came down on the beach. They said there were thirty-eight men cooped up in the house, and, as you may conclude, in

a state of starvation. I had before this sent back to camp for more men, thinking ten hardly sufficient, and nine more were added to our detachment, besides fourteen volunteers among the inhabitants who had either friends or connections among the men on the Peninsula.

"I had got two boats in readiness, and we started after dark, rowed all night, and arrived at the Peninsula just before the break of day, and landed. Allen first, and a young man acquainted with the grounds next. I immediately followed at the head of my men through a marsh where the grass was as high as my head. We marched up to the house, made ourselves known, and immediately *formed;* the men that were in the house placed the wounded in the rear of them, and I brought up the rear with my men, got them to the boats and gave them some refreshments. There were three wounded and a number sick. These we put on board the boats, which were not large enough to carry us all, and started them across the bay, which is here about six miles wide. That left about fifty. I marched back and buried the dead that were killed on this side of the Peninsula in the second engagement. Those killed in the first engagement were buried before the retreat.

"Our men, it seems, had two engagements in the course of the day. In the first there were three killed and two wounded. In the second there was the same number killed and several wounded.

"I was surprised, when I viewed the ground where the battle was fought, that there was not more men killed. The sides of the trees next the Indians were well-nigh barked by the balls. I believe our men killed double the number they lost. Chester Allen killed two, and was grazed by three balls, and yet escaped unhurt. Sergeant Baily had two balls pass through his coat without doing him injury. Sergeant Rice fought like a hero. There were a good many excellent soldiers among them, but I believe they suffered much for want of a commander.

"Just as I got into camp with the poor fellows from the Peninsula, which was about three o'clock in the afternoon of October 1st, the news came that the boys from Sandusky were coming in. I went out to meet them, and found they had marched thirty-four miles in one day; and my friend Burnham was safe. They had met with no attack, although surrounded by Indians, which was doubtless owing to such an arrangement of troops as gave no favorable chance of attack; and I do not believe they ever will attack equal numbers except they have the advantage. While at Sandusky several scouts were sent out that have not yet returned, although expected several days since. We do not despair of seeing them again. Titus Hayes and Burt are among the number of the missing.

"Four men, inhabitants, were killed or taken by the Indians on Pipe Creek night before last. Such is the news I have to write you, and

when such news will end God only knows. I should not be in the least surprised should our camp be attacked within three days. But I think we shall be able to give a good account of ourselves in the event of an attack.

"When I shall return home I think is very uncertain, for this part of the country is in ten times the danger that it was in when we first arrived. The inhabitants, many of whom had stayed until within three days, have all fled."

"October 25, 1812.

"I received yours (and one from Captain Burnham likewise), and find you have consented to let me stay through the present term, which I think, could I accomplish, would be rather more to my advantage than to come back in the Spring and stay three or four months, which I very much fear, unless there is a bold stroke struck here in the West this season. It will take at least fifteen thousand men to defend our frontier north and west of Cleveland next Spring and Summer. But General Wadsworth will not let me go home until Hopkins comes on here; for he says he very much wants me here. And I expect, after between two and three months of constant fatigue and deprivation, I shall be the very last man furloughed to return home. Consequently, you will send immediately to Hopkins, and tell him he must be on as quick as possible. I wish Brother Daniel would go; for I want the business attended to immediately. I am not in camp at this time; but will leave the business with the Doctor to explain to you. General Perkins is absent at this time. When he returns I am confident he will intercede to have me furloughed, with what success is quite uncertain."

That the foregoing correspondence of Lieutenant Allen gives, in some particulars, full and truthful accounts of events which transpired during the war of 1812 on that part of the frontier to which they relate, is evident from records of a similar character, referring to the same times. The readers of the *Pioneer* are specially referred to the narrative of the "Skirmish with Indians on the Peninsula," by Hon. J. R. Giddings, in a previous volume, and to various memoirs of the incidents following on Hull's uuhappy surrender, which may be traced from the general Index with this volume.

THE MAPLE CITY, OR NORWALK, IN 1878.

FROM A SPECIAL CORRESPONDENCE OF THE CLEVELAND HERALD, APRIL 13TH, 1878.

BY P. J. MAHON.

As the largest urban settlement on the old line between Cleveland and Toledo, this comely little Norwalk merits to be better known of its neighbors. By its title of "Maple City," too, it may claim a sort of kinship with your charming Forest City, and assuredly it has some share of the family pretensions to beauty. Municipally considered, it came into being exactly fifty years ago, and ten years previous was but a jagged clearing in the virgin forest, hewn out by the muscle of New England pioneers. The log huts and corn-patches, however, have long disappeared, and in their stead we have the streets and stores, banks and factories, churches and school houses, of a bustling community of seven thousand persons. The principal street of the village naturally took its course over the sandy ridge which trails along from Cleveland, near the shore of Lake Erie. This is now known as East and West Main streets, and for about two and a half miles, within the city limits, is shaded with maple trees, and bordered by handsome residences and stores, the latter, as may be supposed, being most numerous about midway. As in all well-bred cities, the western end of this thoroughfare is the fashion home of Norwalk, while other streets, less imposing, lie parallel at either side, and a number intersect it from north to south, stretching out over gentle slopes until they merge imperceptibly in the farm lands beyond. If you will now glance downward over this rectangular street system, with the Court House cupola for its pivotal center, and picture to yourself the Lake Shore Railroad crossing it diagonally—forming with the Main street an attenuated X—a sparkling creek flowing sinuous through the hollows of the southern half; smoking factories and saw-mills in the open spaces; half a dozen church spires rising near the middle; white-spotted cemeteries in the distant outskirts; shade trees, and gardens, and verdure all between; and corn-fields and pastures extending to the wooded horizon—you may form some idea of the scenic aspects of Norwalk.

It is a matter of more consequence, however, to know how the city has grown and expects to grow, and where these 7,000 people manage to get bread and butter. Strictly regarded, the place is but a depot for the agricultural region around, but this is most favored in all the elements of rural prosperity. Wheat, corn, and live stock, fruits, vegetables, and dairy produce, are largely exported hence over the Lake Shore Railroad, and by it are received the exchange of comforts and luxuries with which the farmer of our times is enabled to regale himself. Since 1852, when it entered here as the "Cleveland, Norwalk and Toledo," this line has consequently been the main factor of our growth, and by incidental advantages it must continue to be so as the years roll on. The establishment by the company of extensive workshops at this point, which took place soon afterward, has also proved a boon of no slight importance. From 100 to 200 artisans are here constantly employed, and all kinds of "rolling stock," from a lumber truck to a locomotive, can be turned out in such style as would do credit to a great factory center. The railroad officers and workmen, with their families, make an ingredient of some value in Norwalk society.

The Wheeling and Lake Erie Railroad, from Martin's Ferry, also touches here, and when completed will bring through our city those mining products of the State that are to be shipped over the lakes from Huron, or be conveyed east and west along the lake shore. The port above named, which lies a few miles north of us, has harbor and wharves, and other shipping accommodations ready for years past, and is gaping just now for the commerce which it dreams will make it rival even your own city. The new line is a narrow gauge, and was finished over a most picturesque country from Norwalk to Huron more than a twelvemonth since, the pleasure traffic of last summer being brisk and profitable. Southward as far as New London it has also been surveyed and graded, but a miserable litigation between "narrow gauge" and "standard gauge" men suspends for the time being this most hopeful enterprise. It is a pretty little quarrel as it stands, and when it is fairly adjusted and one gauge or other completed, the metals of the Hocking Valley shall come clanking through our Maple City, while rivals less fortunate hide their diminished heads.

Besides the railroad works already referred to, we have other factories here of more than local celebrity. The Dauntless Sewing Machine Company have an extensive foundry and fitting shops, employ a large number of men, and send out a piece of mechanism which "holds its own" with the best from ocean to ocean. At present they construct about one hundred machines per week, and work all their hands till nine every evening. The Eureka Fanning Mill is also made here, and may be found chaffing cereals from the banks of the river Hudson to the teeming plains of Kansas. A thousand of these mills

are made and sent forth from Norwalk annually, the inventor, who resides with us, having settled in the village twelve years ago without any other capital than his brains and his handicraft. We have likewise an organ factory, which furnishes these instruments far and wide, two shoe factories, several sash and blind works, a maker of patent wash-boards, two of fine-cut tobacco, and other such industries, which were located here from motives of economy, and add very materially to the prosperity of the place. Others yet will undoubtedly come, too, when it is more generally known as a healthy and beautiful town, with low rents, cheap food and fuel, and the consequent cheap labor which helps a manufacturer to the front of the market.

It would be impossible to figure closely the aggregate product of the several industries named, and which, with our soil produce, makes up the export trade of Norwalk, but I know of one factory that turns out its wares to the value of $50,000 per annum. The resulting financial transactions, and those of our storekeepers, farmers, and capitalists, are all performed through two National banks, conducted by solid citizens, and for a generation past knowing "no such word as *fail*." In groceries, dry goods, and other branches of trade, the same stability is noticeable, the business of the place being mostly for cash, and our buyers and sellers conservative in their dealings. "Wild-cat" paper is a thing almost unknown, though it must be admitted that we are largely inoculated with the contagious yearning for "more greenbacks."

A valuable test of the progress of an American community is to be found in its newspapers, and here we have three of them, all weeklies. The *Reflector* has a State reputation, and was first issued as the *Reporter* from a log shanty in the Norwalk of fifty years ago. One of its earliest proprietors is still at the helm as editor and publisher, and in him and his several sons the name of Wickham is identified with all that is worthy and progressive in the history of Norwalk. The *Experiment* is a Democratic sheet, aged over forty years, long in the minority camp on public questions, but holding out gaily after the fashion of Mr. Micawber. The *Huron County Chronicle* is the youngest of our newspaper family, has embarassed two or three proprietors, was sold out a couple of weeks ago, wants to be sold out again, and is sitting on a fence between Republicanism and Nationalism, while waiting for a purchaser from either camp. (It has since passed into the hands of Messrs. Finley and Dodds, late of Xenia, and is now a live Republican sheet.) The well known modesty of editors has precluded my obtaining for you the circulation of any of these journals. As public teachers they are all interesting and dignified, and may safely be welcomed into the best regulated families.

From a moral point of view, indeed, nothing different would be

tolerated or patronized in Norwalk. This is eminently a well-behaved, righteous community. We have as many as thirteen churches, of which three are Catholic, and pastors and congregations seem all alike zealous in the Master's work. Prayer meetings are regular and fully attended; revivals are frequent and abound in fervor; the sacred cause of temperance finds among our citizens its most persistent advocates and congenial home. Drunkenness on the streets is agreeably infrequent. The average Norwalker rarely enters a saloon. Our two brave policemen grow fat on their sinecures. Our jail, except for county purposes, might be closed half the time. A night in the lock-up, and a fine of $5, is the ordinary limit of judicial castigation and criminal deserving.

Yet still we have our little excitements and recreations, though few, and mild, and often far between. A popular lecturer, or a burnt-cork minstrel troupe, occasionally fills our largest hall. The advent, last week, of a home-bred singing family, was one of the events of the season. A talk about spiritualism, psychology, or phrenology, will always "draw a house." A meeting of the pioneers, or a Sunday School Convention, fans us up to a blaze of enthusiasm. In summer, too, we have our pic-nics, running down by the "narrow gauge" to Huron and the lake shore. We have a pleasant Fair Ground, thirty acres or so, fenced and maple-shaded, where our Agricultural Society will disport in the fall. We have a well-trained brass band for parades and festivities, and the strains from its practice room entrance us almost nightly. And last, not least, we have most gallant fire companies, and a dauntless military one, which only go abroad to return to us trophy-laden for their perfection of discipline and chivalry of deportment.

In her educational facilities Norwalk may be permitted to take especial pride. The schools and academies here have long been noted, and nowhere in the State has the "graded" public school system been so effectively developed. In June, 1848, the first Normal class of the State Teachers' Association held in Ohio was convened in this place, continuing nine weeks, and marking an epoch in our educational history. The graded schools were opened in September, 1850, the population of Norwalk being then about 2,000. At present there are six school houses, sixteen schools, and twenty-five teachers, with an enrollment—exclusive of Catholic or Lutheran schools—of upward of 1,000 names. There are nine grades of education, embracing the High School, with a standard intended to fit pupils to enter college. The average cost of instruction per scholar—music and German being among the branches taught—is $15 a year, the total value of school property being $48,000. President R. B. Hayes is one of the many distinguished men who have had the basis of their education laid in a Norwalk school house. Incidental to our educational work may be mentioned the

facts that we have the beginnings of a fair public library of several thousand volumes, an alumni association of the public school graduates, a choral society, and other similar organizations.

A few words may be added for the Gradgrinds of Capital and Industry. Thrifty, progressive, and moral as her people are, Norwalk, as a corporation, is also economical, well-managed, and prosperous. No debt of consequence vexes the civic heart. Taxation within our limits is never over two and a half per cent. Rents and food supplies are cheap as on a farm. We have mail and telegraph facilities equal to the most favored. Transportation is convenient to the East or West, and soon will be available directly south. Labor is cheap where a people are so industrious, frugal, and temperate. We have a bountiful water supply—on the Waterbury system—which cost $100,000, and only the other day was provided with new pumps at an expense of $10,000. Seven miles of mains distribute this to our homes and factories, and with abundant fuel, well-lit streets, and the other advantages named, should contribute to make this place an El Dorado to manufacturers. That many appreciate these advantages is evidenced in the fact that at this very hour more new buildings are going up—both for dwellings and business purposes—than at any other time in the previous history of Norwalk. We are also just devising a convenient street railway, and are looking out hopefully in the direction of other improvements. We are growing in wealth, and usefulness, and beauty, and taken all in all, Norwalk may be regarded as a city with a destiny.

CHURCH CHRONICLE OF HARTLAND.

The following recent communication from Hartland to the Norwalk *Reflector*, signed E. J. W., gives some readable particulars of the religious history of that township, which we gladly transfer to the pages of the *Pioneer*. Says the writer:

I noticed a communication in your paper entitled, "Early History of Methodism in the Firelands and in the Adjacent Region." I think the article very interesting. It ought to be continued by taking it up by townships, not only Methodism but other denominations. Should our publishing committee see fit, it might be published in the Fireland *Pioneer* and become permanent history. By your permission I offer a few lines. I see in the article referred to a broken link, or blank, from the year 1818 to 1823. The writer says, at the Conference of 1818 Charles Waddel was appointed P. E., and Wm. Westlake, Circuit Preacher, which no doubt is correct, as Waddel was P. E. of the district in the year 1821. He says that at the Conference of 1823, True Pattee and James McIntyre, were Circuit Preachers in Huron Circuit, which is correct. But True Pattee and James McIntyre were on this Circuit in the year 1812, as I well know, it being the year we came to Hartland. In traveling from one appointment to another, they left an appointment at our house on Hartland Ridge, and continued to preach there, once in two weeks, till we built a school house in the fall, when preaching was removed there. This was the first regular preaching in the township. In the year 1821, there was a Camp Meeting held somewhere, about one and a half or two miles from Norwalk, (I cannot locate the place), Charles Waddel P. E. being there It was the first Methodist Camp Meeting I ever attended. I will say that I was well paid, notwithstanding we traveled from Hartland Ridge without road, trail, or guide, through the woods till we struck the Old State Road near the Dillingham place. There was but one Methodist family in the township in 1821, and they left, I think, in 1824. About this time the Freewill Baptists came in and held meetings. Their names were Mead, Carlton, Wheeler and others. Mead then lived on the Ridge. They had quite a revival, and formed a church in Clarksfield, those of Hartland joining with them. They seem to have taken the lead for a number of years. In 1834, some six families having settled in the western part of the township, some of whom felt the need of preaching, at one of our prayer meet-

ings it was proposed to send a delegate to Norwalk, and obtain preaching if we could. This was done, we obtained an appointment from Rev. Leonard Hill, a Methodist preacher. At the second appointment he formed a class of four members, to-wit: Mrs. P. Miner, James Read, F. M. Kilburn and wife, and appointed Daniel Stratton, of Norwalk township, leader. I think before Hill left the Circuit the Society numbered nearly twenty. This was the first religious organization in the township. From that time to the present we have had regular preaching, and as a general rule the Society has been in a healthful and prosperous condition. And why should it not prosper when in its infancy we had for our ministers such men as A. Thompson (afterwards Bishop), Diem, Disbro, Kellum, Barkdall, Huester, Jones, Wells, Breckenridge, Gurley and other men of God? Most of them have gone to their reward. When we view the past and present, oh, what a contrast. Forty years ago we worshipped in a log cabin school house, 16 by 18, now in a neat commodious church; then a rude desk for a pulpit, now a pulpit of modern style; then we had split logs for seats, now nice varnished slips; then we went to *meeting* with oxen and cart, or wagon, now to *church* with horses and carriage; then the whole congregation praised God vocally (we think with the spirit and understanding), now we have the help of the *organ*. Surely a great difference between now and then.

There was a Society of Methodists formed in the fourth section quite early, and after awhile another at the center of the town. The one in the fourth section did not continue long, the members going to Olena. The one at the center after awhile broke up. I think about the year 1852 or 1853, a Wesleyan preacher, by the name of Royce, came in, and during a revival formed a class, which, not being able to sustain preaching, continued but a few years. Some twelve years ago a United Brethren preacher came to the Center, by the name of Davis, and formed a Society which has continued until the present time. They had a nice church and are in a prosperous condition. A year ago they had a revival, and some one hundred then professed to have found the Saviour.

DAIRY PRODUCTS OF THE RESERVE.

From the Pittsburg Telegraph.

That part of Ohio that the State of Connecticut obtained from Congress, the ownership of the soil, but not the political control, in compensation for relinquishing the charters given by King Charles II, granting to her all the lands between certain parallels west to the Pacific Ocean, took from its first settlement the name "Connecticut Western Reserve." Dropping the name of the State, and retaining the "Western Reserve," that particular branch of agriculture—dairying—so generally adopted by the settlers, as soon as their farms were cleared of the heavy growth of timber standing on them, gave the name a significance, and the territory comprised in the name a geographical location, known generally throughout the whole United States.

The soil of the Western Reserve was so naturally adapted to grass that it seemed to grow spontaneously; and the manufacture of cheese and butter increased with the growth of, and improvement of, the farms, and years before the factory system became known, Western Reserve cheese and Western Reserve butter were known and quoted in all the large markets of the country.

Pittsburg was the first market of importance, and to the first settlers was *the* market; because it was within reach of the farmer with his own team. He could load his wagon on Monday morning with cheese, butter and black salts; make the trip, sell his load, taking his pay in family supplies, and sometimes—and then he blessed his lucky stars—half the pay in money, and reach home again Saturday night. The first venture to reach a larger market was made by a Mr. Baldwin, who started with a load of cheese for the Ohio river. On reaching the river he purchased a boat not much larger than a skiff, and loading his cheese into it started down the river for Cincinnati and Louisville, he himself acting as captain, mate, and all hands. Reaching Cincinnati, he sold part of his load, and then floated down to Louisville, where the balance was disposed of. Then purchasing a horse, he returned home on horseback, the trip taking three months' time. He followed it with succeeding ventures, and others went into the business more extensively; and in a few years Cincinnati became the great mart and distributing point to the South and West for Western Reserve cheese and butter. Pittsburg still retained its reputation as a market for what it could con-

sume or distribute to the surrounding country.

All this was before railroads, and were palmy days for teamsters, when through the fall months their heavy covered wagons took on their loads of cheese and butter at the warehouse door of the country merchants and started for Beaver, that being the main shipping point for either down or up the Ohio, though many teamsters that loaded with freight for Pittsburg drove through and unloaded into the warehouses, and reloaded with tea, coffee, sugar, tobacco and dry goods for the country dealer.

Since the advent of cheese factories, the territory engaged in the dairy business has increased, especially east into Pennsylvania, the three counties adjoining the Western Reserve, Mercer, Crawford and Erie, being well supplied with factories, and have established a good reputation for their cheese in the markets. The railroads have added greatly to the facilities for marketing cheese, and, in connection with the factory system of making, have made great changes in the markets and time of marketing. In the old times, when every dairyman made his own cheese, the cheese were made and stored on shelves in the cheese room till September or October, and then sold to the merchant and shipped to market during the cool weather. Now the markets are receiving and shipping every week of the year, except it be the severest cold weather of winter. And cheese, from being an article for domestic consumption, has become one of the exports, and now the foreign markets take more cheese than is used at home. New York has become the great cheese and butter market of the world. In the Western Reserve and Western Pennsylvania local markets have been established, and have materially lessened the importance of Cincinnati and other western cities as distributing points to consumers.

Wellington, O., is the largest local market of the "Reserve," and, with the exception of New York and Philadelphia, the largest in the United States. In Wellington market the cheese are mainly sold on orders—the order trade reaching East to Liverpool, Eng., South to New Orleans, and West to California—annually selling 220,000 boxes, or 8,000,000 pounds.

Hudson, O., is the next largest market. The trade there is largely with the Southern cities. Meadville is the local market of Western Pennsylvania. The cheese here sold to go to the New York market, are made for the English trade.

I do not know the amount sold in Meadville, but it must reach about 5,000,000 pounds. Pittsburg still holds its reputation as a cheese market, and is a standard market for the two eastern counties of the "Reserve," Trumbull and Ashtabula. It being both a consuming and distributing market, the demand increases with the population and growth of business in and around it. The vast oil region of Pennsylvania, though as near Ohio dairymen as Pittsburg,

is largely supplied with Western Reserve cheese by Pittsburg dealers, local salesmen preferring to ship in large lots direct to market, and let wholesalers do the jobbing, rather than make small, scattered shipments and be bothered with collections.

On the Western Reserve two styles of a cheese are made. One, the large size, is made for the New York market and weighs about sixty pounds, and is made hard and solid enough to "stand up," as it is termed, in the hottest weather. The other size weighs from thirty-five to forty pounds, and is the favorite size for the home trade. The cheese product, though limited to a few localities, or rather a local product of a small portion of five different States, has more than tripled in quantity in the last twenty years, and in company with this great increase is nearly a corresponding advance in the price. Twenty years ago cheese sold at 5 to 5½ cents per pound. Now it is worth 12 to 13 cents with a more ready cash demand.

ORIGIN OF THE TERM BROTHER JONATHAN.

The story of the origin of the above term, as related many years ago to the editor of the Norwich *Courier*, by a gentleman over eighty years of age, who was an active participator in the scenes of the Revolution, is as follows:

"When General Washington, after being appointed commander of the army of the Revolutionary War, came to Massachusetts to organize it and make preparations for the defense of the country, he found a great want of ammunition and other means necessary to meet the powerful foe he had to contend with, and great difficulty to obtain them. If attacked in such a condition, the cause at once might be hopeless. On one occasion, at that anxious period a consultation of the officers and others was held, when it seemed no way could be devised to make such preparation as was necessary. His Excellency, Jonathan Trumbull, the elder, was then Governor of the State of Connecticut, on whose judgment and aid the General placed the greatest reliance, and remarked, 'We must consult Brother Jonathan on the subject.' They did so, and the Governor was successful in supplying many of the wants of the army. When difficulties afterwards arose, and the army was spread over the country, it became a by-word, 'We must consult Brother Jonathan.' The term Yankee is still applied to a portion, but 'Brother Jonathan' has now become a designation of the whole country, as John Bull has for England."

OBITUARY RECORD.

[During the lengthened period since the publication of our last volume, a large number of pioneers, and others identified with the history of the Fire Lands, have passed, in the course of nature, to their eternal rest. Not very many of these, however, were actual "first settlers," but arrived here soon after on the larger wave of immigration that set in from the East when the perils of actual settlement had been overcome by the venturous and eager few. Some difficulty has been experienced, therefore, in procuring the obituaries of those who were best known, or whose lives might be regarded as of most general interest. The great increase of population, and the multiplicity of modern interests, have also had their part in obscuring the last traces of some that were coeval with the infancy of the Fire Lands. To the thoughtfulness of relatives and friends, therefore, and to our own researches in the public press, we are indebted for the material of the notices we here furnish, nor should any deem us blameworthy if they discover omissions where such a multitude had to be selected from. Some accounts, too, have been much condensed, to suit the exigencies of space, but we have dealt with all as tenderly as we might with the remains of those loved ones themselves. As being more convenient of reference, we have likewise adopted an alphabetical arrangement.—ED. PIONEER.]

BENONI ADAMS.

Near the close of 1877, died, Benoni Adams, of Columbia, Lorain County, aged ninety two years. The funeral services were largely attended at the Methodist Episcopal Church, of which he had been a standing member since its organization, he having been one of the few who built the church some fifty years ago. He had lived in town since quite a young man. The *Advertiser* says: "The first mail west of Cleveland was carried by Horace Gunn, in 1808. The route was from Cleveland to Maumee, and there were but two houses on the road. In 1809, the mail over this route was carried by Benoni Adams, of Columbia, and at this time it required two weeks to make the trip, it being made on foot."

HENRY ANDERSON.

Henry Anderson was born in England, and died at West Jefferson, Williams Connty, March 6th, 1877, in the 89th year of his age. His wife, Nancy Williams, died on Independence Day, 1854. They settled in New London, Huron County, in 1817, and there remained until 1870. He was a prosperous farmer and good citizen.

THEODORE BAKER.

Theodore Baker, a former well-known and estimable citizen of Norwalk, died in Chicago on the 4th of January, 1878. Until about fifteen years ago, Mr. Baker carried on a tannery in Norwalk, in which business he had been engaged for many years. On leaving Norwalk he removed to Cleveland and engaged in the same business, and from there he went to Chicago, where he was living at the time of his death with his son, Daniel Baker. His remains were brought to Norwalk for interment. The deceased, when he lived in Norwalk, was a prominent member of the Baptist church, and was universally esteemed as a benevolent, kind-hearted Christian gentleman, and in his death it may be truly said that a good man has fallen. His age was past 79 years.

TIMOTHY BAKER.

Among the Pioneers of the Fire Lands, few have ever attained the prominence and influence of Timothy Baker, of Norwalk, whose death occurred at his residence in that village, January 27th, 1878.

Judge Baker was born at Northampton, Mass., August 5, 1787, and was 90 years, 5 months and 21 days old at death. He first came to Ohio in 1815, at the close of the last war with England, and bought lands at Norwalk and vicinity. In 1817 he married Miss Eliza Remington, of Fairfield, Herkimer County, N. Y., who accompanied him to Norwalk in 1819, which became their permanent home. His first special business there was that of tanning leather, which, however, he soon turned over to his brother Theodore, who continued the same for many years, and until advancing age suggested a withdrawal from active business. Judge Baker devoted his attention to merchandizing, and for a long series of years the sign "T. Baker," on the brick store, at the corner of Main and Milan streets, was a familiar object with citizens and visitors. During the time of his trading at this place, he was also more or less engaged in banking and general business, having been for many years President of the Bank of Norwalk, then one of the most substantial institutions of the kind in Ohio. In 1821 he was by the Legislature chosen an Associate Judge of the Court of Common Pleas (under the old Judicial system), was twice re-elected, and declined a third election in 1841, after a service of twenty years. It is but justice to say, that throughout that long period, he maintained a standing as a jurist reached by few in the same position, his relations to the court being recognized as far more important than were accorded to many Associates. This was due alike to his sound judgment, careful investigation, and conscientious regard for justice. Of his business operations, it is sufficient to say, that they were various and conducted by that sound discretion and conservative policy so certain of success, as they were in his case.

Judge Baker was the father of five children, all of whom survive him, to-wit: Mrs. Mary Ann Corwin, and James Whipple, of Norwalk; William, of Toledo; Timothy, of Chicago, and Charles and George, of Toledo. His aged consort died in 1864, after a union of 47 years, being the first death in the family of seven, the youngest of whom at the time was 34 years of age.

Three names will always stand out in special prominence in the early times of Norwalk—Platt Benedict, Ebenezer Lane and Timothy Baker.

These all occupied somewhat distinct positions and acted somewhat different parts; but the history of the town can never be written without recognizing each of them. All, now, have gone, and with them nearly every life that links the pioneer era with the present. Coming there at about the same time, they all bore prominent parts in the early struggles of the place; but Judge Baker was spared to see and enjoy more of the fruits of pioneer sacrifices and patience than were allowed to his distinguished compeers. But this advantage is measured by a very small space of time, and he sleeps with the long list of heroic dead, who braved the dangers, privations and toils of the days of the beginning.

ZELOTUS BARRITT.

The late Zelotus Barritt, of New London, was the son of Philander Barritt, of Monroe county, N. Y., where he was born February 24th, 1798, his death taking place June 24th, 1876. Even as a youth he served his country in the war of 1712-14, and long enough to become a pensioner, one of the last efforts of a prolonged life being to sign his pension papers before Justice A. D. Skellinger in the month in which he died. In 1821 he married Miss Betsy Smith, who bore him two children, Philander and Smith, and died at New London in 1839. In 1840 he was again married, to the widow of Enoch Boone, by which union there were three children. Mr. Barritt was one of the first three that voted the abolition ticket in New London. His life throughout was that of a man of energy and versatility—at one time a captain of militia, at another a banker, at another the owner of 1,500 acres of land, and for 30 years of his life a money lender to the poor, and to those in financial distress. With the exception of a short time in Huron, and a sojourn of three and a half years in Milan, he lived for 60 years in New London, identified in all things with its history and progress. He was most of his life a Methodist, but while living at Milan joined the Presbyterian Church, with which he ever after remained. He died in his 79th year, regretted by all who knew him, and followed to his resting place by a long concourse of the citizens among whom he had lived.

MRS. FANNY BEACH.

Miss Fanny Curtis, who died May 11th, 1878, at 64 years of age, came to Ruggles 52 years ago. She was married on her twentieth birthday in 1834 to Mr. Kimball Beach, son of Daniel, the first white settler of the place. "Uncle Kims" and "Aunt Fanny" were household words to the youth of Ruggles for many years. All loved to visit a family in whose home reigned plenty and domestic love, and where the hand of welcome was ever extended. They were the kind and Christian parents of six children, who survive them, nearly all married, and still an element of Ruggles society. Mrs. Beach was universally regarded for her motherly affection and Christian amiability of character.

MR. LEONARD BENSON.

Mr. Leonard Benson died at his residence in East Fitchville, Friday evening, September 7th, 1877. He was born in Marcellus, N. Y., April 2d, 1800, consequently was in the 78th year of his age. In June, 1832, he settled in this township, on the farm now owned by S. K. Barnes, where he lived and labored until the

year '65, when his health failing, he sold out and removed to the village, where he resided until his death.

WALTER BRANCH.

Captain Walter Branch died at his residence in Fairfield on June 5d, 1878, aged 86 years. Mr. Branch was born in the town of Meredith, Delaware county, N. Y., and emigrated from that State to Fairfield, Ohio, in the fall of 1828, and purchased the farm on which he died. Of course it was not cleared when he moved on to it. He was a soldier of 1812, and held a Captain's commission. He represented Huron county in the Legislature in 1838 9. He was the first Postmaster in the township, being appointed January 1st, 1829. Captain Branch was married in 1831 to Miss Mary T. Benson, daughter of Captain Abijah Benson, then a resident of Marcellus, Onondaga county, N. Y. She died in 1843, being the mother of six children. The three eldest died in infancy; the other three are still living. He was married again in 1844 to Phila Dexter, formerly of Owasco, Cayuga county, N. Y. She is the mother of two children, and still survives him. He was converted, and united with the Baptist church in the winter of 1839, and had been a consistent member up to the time of his death. This is the outline of his history. For nearly fifty years he has filled out this outline in the midst of a community by whom he was respected as a high-minded, honest and faithful citizen. No stain rests on the character of the deceased to detract from his long life of merit and usefulness.

JOHN BUCHANAN.

John Buchanan, a veteran of the second war with Great Britain, died in St. Joseph county, Michigan, in April, 1877, in the 84th year of his age. He was born in Sussex county, New Jersey, January 24th, 1794, whence he removed to the State of New York, and during the last war with England he enlisted and served as a member of Captain John Hatfield's militia. After the war he settled in Vermont, where he remained until the year 1828, when he removed to the State of Ohio and settled near Norwalk upon a farm, and remained in the same locality for forty-one years, until September, 1869, when he removed to Michigan, where he has since resided, quietly passing the closing years of a well-spent life with his family of four daughters—another daughter, married, and residing at Alma, Gratiot county, Mich., comprising all the surviving members of his family. He had two sons. One died at the age of 17, and the other was lost on the return journey from California in the ill-fated steamer "Yankee Blade."

TEMPERANCE CHURCH,

Relict of the late Theophilus Church, and mother of the late Charles Church, died at the residence of her daughter, Mrs. Griffin, at Ceylon, Berlin township, July 30th, 1876, at the age of 80 years. She and her husband came into that township in the year 1822, where she continued to reside until her death. She left a large number of children and grandchildren, and the memory of a noble life devoted to the happiness of all around her.

MR. JOHN CLARK.

At his residence one mile east of Bellevue, May 2, 1877, died Mr. John Clark, aged 83 years. The de-

ceased was a native of England. He was born in Ashelworth, Glocestershire county, July 19th, 1792. May 5th, 1823, he was joined in marriage to Elizabeth Lloyd, of Tibberton, Worcestershire county. Three years subsequently they emigrated to America. Agriculture being his chosen occupation, Mr. Clark purchased a farm on Pipe Creek, and entered heartily upon the work of preparing a home. For seven years he remained on the above mentioned farm, when he sold out and moved to Sandusky. In the spring of 1845, Mr. Clark moved to the place of his late residence, where he remained till his death. There, for upward of thirty years, he has been identified with the interests of this community. Mr. Clark was an honored member of the [illegible] Episcopal Church. For thirty-two years he has sustained this relation. He was generally respected in this community, and his loss will be felt not a little.

WINTHROP CLOUGH.

At the residence of his son, Josiah Clough, in Wakeman, Ohio, February 12th, 1878, Winthrop Clough, aged 85 years. Mr. Clough has been a resident of this township for a long time. He was born in New Hampshire in the year 1792, and was a pensioner of the war of 1812. He was engaged in the battles of Lundy's Lane and Chippewa, and at the siege of Fort Erie, besides being in other minor engagements. — *Wakeman Press.*

JOSEPH BANKS DARLING.

Joseph Banks Darling was born in the city of New York on the 17th of July, 1814. When he was a mere lad, his father moved to the then Huron county, and in 1819 returned to New York, where he remained but a short time, returning to this county and becoming a permanent resident. Joseph Banks Darling remained in New York, going from there to New Haven, where he attended school until 1832, when he came to Sandusky and went into the employ of Morehead, Pratt & Brown, with whom he continued until he went to New Haven, Huron county, where he was engaged as a clerk. When the project of building the old Mad River road was put in practical shape, young Darling secured employment with Chief Engineer Bell, who had charge of the surveys. Mr. Darling continued in the employ of the company for a number of years under Bell, and then under Mr. Durbin. He made civil engineering his profession, and gave so general satisfaction that he was elected and re-elected surveyor of this county some half dozen times. In 1847 he married Miss Wealthy J. Wilder, of Avon. His wife died in 1872, having had three children, two sons, one of whom is an art student in Germany, and one daughter. Mr. Darling leaves a comfortable property to his children. He was an honest, faithful, and exemplary citizen, a kind neighbor and an excellent officer.

JOHN DENMAN.

Died in Birmingham, March 23d, John Denman, in the 87th year of his age.

Mr. Denman was born in the county of Kent, England, March 25th, 1791. In the year 1795, at the age of four years, he, together with his parents and brother, came to America, locating in Sullivan county, N. Y. He remained with his family until the year 1816, when he started for Ohio, making the distance on foot. Arriving in Florence township

(then Jessup, Huron county), he bargained with Mr. Barnum, agent for Mr. Wakeman, of Connecticut, for one hundred and sixty acres of land at $3 per acre, upon which, as was the custom, he made a small payment —all he had. He immediately commenced work upon his purchase, continuing there during that memorable year, remarkable as being the most unproductive of all in the history of the county (there being a frost in every month of 1816, and known by the early settlers as the year eighteen-hundred-and-froze-to-death). In the spring of 1817 Mr. Denman left his farm, going to Liverpool, Medina county, and hired out to work in the salt works located there, with the view of getting money to make the necessary payments and improve his land, not being able to find a cash market at that time for anything he could raise, as farm products could then only be exchanged for dry goods, while groceries must be paid for in cash.

Returning to Florence in 1818, he put in ten acres of wheat, and after threshing it in the fall he could only get a yard of calico or a yard of cotton cloth for a bushel of wheat, while for groceries he could only procure them for cash or gensing root—gensing there being legal tender. In the autumn of the same year he went back to Sullivan county on foot, and after remaining a few weeks, footed it back to his home in Ohio, carrying on his back a pack weighing thirty pounds of such articles as he could not obtain in the new country. A part of the contents consisted of a peck of apple seeds, and from those hard-earned seeds sprang many, if not all of the old orchards of Erie and adjoining counties.

On the 13th of October, 1819, Mr. Denman married Miss Mamida Blackman, eldest daughter of Captain Wm. Blackman, an officer in the war of 1812, also a resident of Jessup township (now Florence township.) They went immediately to housekeeping in a log house just opposite the present family residence. By honest industry, in a few years he had managed to pay for the first purchased land, and was steadily adding to his domain, when, in 1845, he had over 700 acres of the most productive and desirable land in the township, besides fourteen hundred sheep, together with a good stock of horses, cattle, etc., and was out of debt.

Mr. Denman's marked traits of character were his unwavering honesty and great benevolence. He gave largely to all benevolent objects, was a most liberal supporter of the church, making no discrimination between the various denominations, but giving with an unsparing hand.

Mr. and Mrs. Denman had fifteen children, fourteen of whom, five girls and nine boys, grew up to mature estate.

MRS. SARAH DOWNS.

Sarah Downs died in Norwalk, Ohio, May 20, 1876, aged 59 years. She was born in Ridgeville, Lorain county, and came to Wakeman in the year 1825, where she was marmarried to Nathan Downs. In 1857 they moved to Sparta, Morrow county, where she organized a flourishing Sabbath School, acting both as teacher and Superintendent. She subsequently moved to Norwalk, and then to Clyde, where she engaged in the Sabbath School and temperance work, and during the temperance crusade of 1874 was President of the Ladies' Temperance Society in Clyde. Her eldest son, Dr. Downs, is a physician of Columbus. Another son is in Clyde, and her daughter is in Norwalk. She was a woman of much in-

telligence, benevolence, and force of character.

JOSEPH FRENCH.

November 14, 1876, died at his residence in Wakeman, Mr. Joseph French, aged 68 years. Mr. French was among the early pioneers of Wakeman; was born in Southbury, Conn., in 1808, and came with his father's family to Wakeman in 1820. He was only 12 years old, and rode a horse ahead of a yoke of cattle which drew the family goods. When 19 years of age he married Miss Jeanette Shelton and settled near the old homestead, where they have raised a family of six children, four sons and two daughters, all now married and having families. Mr. French was one of the most active men of his day. He could not bear confinement, and would be out as long as he could stand. He used to say, "better wear out than rust out," and at the age of 68 years he finished his work.

MRS. BETSEY FOSTER.

Died at Spencer, Medina county, on March 11th, 1878, Mrs. Betsey Foster, wife of George Foster, (and sister of D. S. Pond, of Rochester, and Mrs. H. A. Messenger, of New London), aged 65 years and 7 months. Deceased was born August 11th, 1812, at Poultney, Rutland county, Vt., and moved with her parents into Windham, Portage county, O., in October, 1832. She was married in 1833, and was one of the pioneers in the settlement of East Creek, New London, in 1835. Their residences have been New London, Clarksfield, Florence, Rochester and Spencer. For several years she suffered severely, rendering life a burthen, producing at times a melancholy state; at other times, when suffering greatly, she was cheerful, and bore her sufferings with great fortitude. In her social relations with her neighbors, she always cultivated peace and harmony, enjoying the good will of all, and consequently leaves a large circle of acquaintances and relatives, to whom she had endeared herself, to mourn her departure.

MRS. CLARISSA GALLUP.

Clarissa Gallup, one of the oldest citizens of Norwalk, quietly passed away January 11th, 1878, at the age of 81 years, 4 months and 7 days. She was born at North Salem, in the State of New York, September 4th, 1796. Her father, Platt Benedict, (who died in 1865) came to Ohio in 1815, and on October 30th of that year entered into an agreement with Elisha Whittlesey and Frederick Falley to jointly purchase from the original Connecticut fire sufferers the present site of the village of Norwalk, with a view to procure the removal of the county seat of the county of Huron from Avery (now Abbott's Bridge, in Erie county,) to this point, if they should succeed in the purchase. The purchase having been made, he, in 1818, removed his family, including the late Jonas B. Benedict (father of Dr. D. D. Benedict, of this place), and his daughter Clarissa, with three other children, to their home, and upon the same lot where he and his daughter, just deceased, passed from earth, erected his dwelling (the first in the village), and there resided until his death.

She was married in 1820 to Hallet Gallup, who also died at Norwalk in July of last year, his obituary appearing elsewhere.

At the time of her death she was the oldest member of the Episcopal Church of this place, having been in constant membership and attendance

at its services for over fifty years. She was the mother of eight children, two of whom died in childhood and six are now living at Norwalk.

She was active, energetic and faithful in her duties, charitable towards the faults of others, a kind and loving mother, and an exemplary Christian.

HALLET GALLUP.

Died at Norwalk, July 11th, 1877, Mr. Hallet Gallup, in the 82d year of his age. He was born in Luzerne county, Pa., in 1796, his father's family being among the first settlers of the beautiful valley of Wyoming, and participants in some of the dreadful scenes occuring at the time of the massacre. His father had lands in Kingston and Exeter, and owned a saw mill. He was killed by falling trees in 1807, when Hallet was but ten years old. The latter then lived with his uncle, Caleb Hathaway, in Philadelphia, until in 1813, when he volunteered in the army, and served under Harrison with the Pennsylvania troops through the campaign of that year, marching up the south shore of Lake Erie, through Cleveland and Sandusky, to Fort Stephenson, now Fremont. At Sandusky he arrived in a very exhausted condition. He belonged to an artillery company, and had been on duty forty-eight hours, drawing their cannon with drag ropes, and as soon as they were relieved they threw themselves on the ground without anything to eat, and slept until a violent storm, which came on, had flooded them with water. From Fort Stephenson he went back by boats and portage across the Peninsula to the islands, hearing the guns of the battle of Lake Erie, and seeing the captive wrecks of the British fleet. His battery was then ordered to Malden, and from there to Detroit. At the close of the campaign they went down the lake in open boats in a snow storm to Erie, where he was discharged. From Erie he was obliged to make his way home on foot over the dense wilderness of southwestern New York, suffering great hardships by the way. After his return he served at the carpenter trade until 1816, when he started again for this western country, accompanied with his brother William. They stopped first at Bloomingville, and thence to Avery, the old county seat, below Milan. On the removal of the county seat to Norwalk, he followed; after which, for a number of years, his history was part of the early history of the town, being engaged in county buildings, opening roads, and all the various labors of a public spirited settler. In 1819 he was made County Collector of taxes of Huron, which then embraced all the northwest corner of the State, and encountered many perilous scenes in the transaction of his duty. He had rare inventive genius, as many machines which he constructed testify. He married, in 1820, Clarissa Benedict, daughter of Platt Benedict, who died a few months later than he did, as above recorded. Through a long and laborious life his faith in the second coming of the Lord grew continually stronger, and enjoining love and harmony in his children, he passed away peacefully, in full acquiescence in the decrees of an all wise God.

MRS. SALLY O. GILSON.

Died, at the residence of her daughter, Mrs. S. W. Owen, in Norwalk, O., March 2d, 1877, Mrs. Sally O. Gilson, wife of the late Nahum Gilson, of Norwich, and mother of the Treasurer of Huron county. Mrs. Gilson was born in

Northumberland, Mass., January 12th, 1792, her father dying while she was quite young. In 1819 she was married to Nahum Gilson, in Saratoga county, N. Y., and as their bridal trip the pair set out next day for Ohio. The trip outlasted the proverbial honeymoon, for it was seven weeks later when the bridal party, of seven persons, bivouacked on the shores of the "wind run," in Norwich. Coming into the township when the red man rivaled the wolf and bear in inspiring fear; when every article of household necessity depended on the ingenuity and skill of those who needed them; and when every element of social and religious advantage had to be forged out of the most primitive materials, she succeeded in building up a home where comfort was long dispensed to her family, and where hospitality was often bestowed on others. She was the mother of seven children, of whom five are still living, and for 50 years was a faithful and exemplary Christian of the Methodist Church. Like many of the pioneer matrons, she had a vivid recollection of early times, and was a sort of encyclopedia of pioneer events, recalling the dates by the birth of the pioneer children.

MRS. ELIZA J. HASKELL.

This lady died May 26th, 1875, at her home in Bellevue, on her 54th birthday. Mrs. Haskell was born at Harbor Creek, Erie county, Pa., May 26th, 1821; moved with her parents from Pennsylvania to Litchfield, Hillsdale county, Mich., in 1836; removed from Michigan to Vermillion in 1837; was married in 1838; settled in Bellevue same year, and resided there until her death. She lived to see Bellevue grow from a few houses to its present size and beauty. She was a member of its first church society, and ever a zealous, active Christian worker, besides being devoted to the cause of temperance. The crusade, and her efforts to support the reading room, were her last efforts. The poor and needy ever shared her bounty. She died suddenly of heart disease. She rests from her labors, and her works do follow her.

GEORGE C. HUNTINGTON.

George C. Huntington, one of the early settlers of Kelley's Island, and father of Erastus and D. K. Huntington, and widely known in this section, died in Wallace, Kansas, on Wednesday, July 5th, 1878, of hemorrhage of the lungs. The deceased was born at Norwich, Conn., July 20, 1807. He left Norwich in 1828, and went as clerk in a hardware store at Buffalo, N. Y.; moved to Cleveland, O., next year, and established a crockery store, which he sold (in 1838) to his brother, Henry D. Huntington and O. A. Brooks (who continued as Huntington & Brooks in Cleveland and Cincinnati for more than thirty years). He moved to Kelley's Island in 1838, where he resided until 1871, when he removed to New York City, and in 1874 to Kansas, with his youngest son, where he lived until his death. He has three sons, Erastus and Daniel K., who reside on Kelley's Island, and Joseph H., who is residing in Kansas. Mr. Huntington was one of Erie's pioneer settlers, and a resident of Kelley's Island when it was but little inhabited. He was a man of decided natural ability, which had been disciplined and cultured by education and habits of study. He was widely and popularly known in this and adjoining counties for many years, and at one time the candidate of the Democracy for Probate Judge of this county.

FRANKLIN JONES.

Died in Lyme township, Huron county, August 30, 1876, Mr. Franklin Jones, aged 72 years. He was one of the first pioneers of the locality in which he died, and without any marked prominence, was an esteemed citizen in all the relations of life.

MRS. SALLY KEELER.

Died at Norwalk, May 17th, 1878, after a long illness, Sally, wife of Eri Keeler, aged 79 years, 2 months and 9 days.

Sally Marvin, the eldest daughter and third child of Isaac and Hannah Marvin, was born at Norwalk, Connecticut, March 8th, 1799, and with her father's family moved to Richland county, Ohio, in the summer of 1818, and settled on a farm about twelve miles north of Mansfield, where the father died in September, 1850, aged 84 years, and his wife at about the same age some twelve years later.

She was married to Eri Keeler, July 10th, 1821, removing to Milan (now in Erie county), where they resided about two years, and then took up a permanent residence in Norwalk. Of their ten children, four died in infancy. Clarence L., aged 18 years, died of a pistol shot, at Moorfield, Va., a member of the 55th O. V. I., June 8th, 1862. Five —two sons and three daughters— still survive. Isaac M., editor Fremont Journal; William B, Chicago; S. Antoinette Martin, Cleveland; Mary C. Randolph, Plainfield, N. J.; and Marcellia H. Johnson, Norwalk, all of whom were present at her funeral. Her's was the first death in her family (except Clarence, killed in the army) since 1834. She was a lady of great amiability of character, and genuine, unostentations, Christian piety. Her husband survives her at an age of nearly four score years.

BENJAMIN KNIFFIN,

A pioneer of Greenwich, Huron county, was born in Cayuga county, New York, May 3d, 1796, and first came to Greenwich in the fall of 1818, where he died July 12th, 1877, aged 81 years and 2 months. After a first sojourn of some years in the township, he went east and married Miss Blania Hobby, in 1825, with whom he returned, and lived ever after in Greenwich. For many years he was an extensive farmer, a grower of fat cattle, and a drover of same to New York and Philadelphia. He was a man of strong physical development, and strong and peculiar mental and moral qualities. He gave employment and aid to a great many poor men in their stuggles in the wilderness, and died as he had lived, with a faith in God's universal saving love for the human family.

THOMAS LAWRENCE.

Died at his home in Bronson, Huron county, February 22d, 2877, Mr. Thomas Lawrence, at the ripe age of 83 years. Mr. Lawrence was born in Westchester county, N. Y., in 1794. His grandfather, Samuel L., was a Captain in the Revolutionary War, and his father, Samuel, helped in several engagements at the close of the same struggle. Thomas was three times married, and was the father of four children, two of whom are yet living. He was a millwright and carpenter previous to coming to Ohio in 1833, but having taught school in his early manhood, was noted as an extensive reader and cogent thinker. For 46 years he was a consistent and helpful member of

the Presbyterian Church, and was greatly esteemed for his benevolence to the needy, and his integrity in the business relations of life. When he came to Huron county he set up house keeping in a log cabin, without a floor to it, near the village of Peru. He soon after purchased the farm on which he ever after lived, one-half mile west of Olena. It is related of him that his conscientious regard for the sanctity of the Sabbath once lost him the purchase of a farm at a good bargain, because he declined to converse on the subject on the holy day.

JOHN LAYLIN.

John Laylin was born in Westmoreland county, Penn., May 22d, 1791, and died in Norwalk, Ohio, April 26th, 1877. He had one brother, Charles, and one sister, Sallie. In 1811 the family removed to West Berlin. In 1812 they experienced the dangers and hardships incident to the war. The community assembled to devise means for safety, and determined to send out a reconnoitering party to prevent a surprise by the Indians. About thirty men volunteered, among them Mr. Laylin; but illness prevented his going. Very few ever returned. The following year their bleached bones were found by Perry's soldiers on the Peninsula.

In the panic which followed Hull's surrender, the family fled to Mount Vernon. At Mansfield they met a regiment hastening to the protection of the citizens on the border, and Mr. Laylin joined these troops. After his military service he joined his family at Mount Vernon. In 1818 he married Miss Olive Clark, daughter of Daniel L. Clark, of Bronson, and settled on fifty acres just south of Norwalk village, where he lived till 1847.

In 1841 Mrs. Laylin died, leaving six children, two having died a short time previous. By the helpful aid of the eldest daughter, Elvira, the family were cared for, and six years after he married Mrs. States, a judicious Christian lady, who walked with him thirty years, and preceded him by ten days to the spirit world. Soon after his second marriage he removed to his late home on Medina street, where he has lived for twenty-three years. For several years his health has been very poor, and his powers of body and mind much impaired. Favored with few early advantages for mental culture, he availed himself to the utmost of what he had. While working in Mount Vernon, he read the public library so thoroughly as to become well versed in ancient and modern history, and on many scientific subjects. Strength and definiteness were leading characteristics of his mind. He held decided and independent judgments on all the religious and political questions that from time to time stirred public thought during his long life.

ALLAN LINDSLEY.

The subject of this notice died at his residence near Monroeville June 1st, 1877, in the 72d year of his age. He was born in Connecticut, but was brought by his parents when but three years old to Columbia county, N. Y. From thence he came, when a young man, to Huron county, where the longest and most important part of his life was spent. Industrious and provident, he became the possessor of one of the most beautiful farms and country homes in Northern Ohio. Mr. Lindsley was a man of more than ordinary strength of mind, and of the purest and most exemplary Christian character.

HENRY F. MERRY.

One by one even our younger pioneers are passing from the stage of their toils and triumphs. Mr. Henry F. Merry died in Sandusky, December 31st, 1876, aged 66 years and 6 days. The son of Hosmer Merry and his wife, Sarah Frost, he was born in Mentor, Lake county, December 26th, 1810. His parents were among the first settlers of Milan, Erie county, removing to that place in 1811. Shortly after the death of his mother, which occurred when he was about fifteen years of age, he apprenticed himself to Hon. Ozias Long, of Elyria, to learn the trade of carpenter. In the spring of 1835, after completing an apprenticeship of seven years, he came to Sandusky, negotiating his first contract with Hon. F. D. Parish for the carpenter work of the First Congregational Church, then building. From this date he became closely identified with the building and business interests of the city, at all times active in furthering its prosperity, and holding prominent positions in its commercial enterprises. He was also devoted to the management and perfecting of the public school system, his official connection therewith extending through a period of nearly twenty years. In the year 1837 he married Miss Caroline Sprague, daughter of Hon. Ezra Sprague, of Florence, Mrs. Merry and one married daughter surviving him. By his death is created a vacancy in the many relations of life, which few will be found to fill.

MRS. ELIZA MERRY.

Died at Bellevue, August 10th, 1877, Mrs. Eliza Merry, wife of E. O. Merry, aged 64 years and 9 months. She was born in Madison county, New York, and removed with her father, Mr. Lemuel Sayles, to Milan in 1817. In that village she was married, September, 1834, to E. O. Merry, and during 43 years was his loving and faithful partner. She was a grand type of an American mother, one who made home a world of joy and comfort, and acted in her daily life "with charity to all, and malice towards none."

DANIEL MINER.

Died in Norwalk, July 25th, 1878, Mr. Daniel Miner, one month and one day less than 75 years of age. The deceased was born in Homer, Courtland county, N. Y., and came to Ohio with his father in 1810 and settled near Rocky River, Cuyahoga county. His father died soon after their arrival in Ohio, and he returned to Homer for the purpose of attending school. He came to Huron county when about sixteen years of age. He married January 7th, 1823, and settled on Hartland Ridge in February, 1824. He was the first Township Clerk and first Postmaster in Hartland township, holding the latter office over twenty-one years. "Uncle Daniel," as he was familiarly called by his numerous friends, was always a favorite with the young or the aged. Genial and courteous to all, he endeared himself to scores of friends. He leaves a widow and the only child with which he was ever blessed (now Mrs. Chas. R. Bostwick), to whom he was devotedly attached.

JOSEPH MOORE.

At the residence of his son, Lewis Moore, in Hartland, Huron county, died October 5th, 1876, Mr. Joseph Moore, aged 89 years 10 months. He was born in Cherry Valley, N. J., 1787, and moved to Norwalk town-

ship, in the Firelands, in 1832. His wife, Susan Wilcox, whom he had married in New York State, died in Norwalk 23 years ago. In 1855 he moved to Hartland, where he lived until the period of his death, as recorded. He leaves three surviving children, ex-Sheriff Henry L. Moore, Lewis Moore, of Hartland, and a married daughter, resident in Kansas. He was an exemplary Christian, and a man of great kindness of heart, and remarkably even, pleasant disposition.

RUNDLE PALMER.

Rundle Palmer, of Fitchville, Huron county, Ohio, died on the 7th of March, 1876, in the 90th year of his age. He was born in Greenwich, Conn., in 1786, and in 1818 he, with his wife and four children, came west and settled in Fitchville, on the site where a part of the village of Clinton now stands. Another family came into the place with them, and they formed the second settlement in this township, the first being made the year previous. Mr. Palmer, with six others, formed the first Christian organization in the township, and did much towards establishing the Presbyterian Church there, and for several years was one of the deacons. He was the first Postmaster, and also the first Justice of the Peace, and being a man of intelligence, and possessing a good deal of energy, he was for many years one of the most prominent men of the place. Some twelve or fourteen years ago he went to reside with a son near Napoleon, and it was at his residence where he breathed his last.

MISS HANNAH PALMER.

Died March 2d, 1878, Miss Hannah Palmer. The deceased was born September, 1789, in Connecticut. Was 89 years old. Was the daughter of Samuel and Amy Palmer. Was one of a family of ten persons, eight brothers and two sisters. The mother dying when the deceased was very young, the care of the large family came upon these two sisters. In 1818 the family came to Ohio, and settled in Fitchville, when the country was a dense forest. The two sisters unitedly had the care of the family till the marriage of the elder in 1825. The deceased remained single, and has always, since coming to Ohio, made her home where she died, and has been familiarly known to all as "Aunt Hannah." In an early day she became interested in the subject of personal religion, and united with the first church organized in the town, nearly 56 years ago. She remained in this connection to her death. For sixty years her home and that of her brother Samuel has been one, and she has been to him not only a sister, but a mother in counsel and care.

OLIVER PEAK.

In the last days of July, 1877, Mr. Oliver Peak, living near Ceylon, died very suddenly by the bursting of a blood vessel. Mr. Peak was one of the earliest pioneers of the county, having settled in Berlin in 1816—sixty years ago. He died at the advanced age of 78 years, and his funeral was attended by a large concourse of friends and people from several townships, the services being conducted by Rev. Mr. Hale, of the Congregational Church at Berlin Hights, who preached an interesting biographical discourse. The deceased was an industrious farmer for many years, a man of sterling qualities, genial spirits, and went down before the Great Reaper as a shock of corn ripe for the harvest.

MRS. MARIA PHILIPS.

Died in October, 1877, at Clarksfield, Huron county, Maria Phillips, the widow of the late Ezekiel Phillips, aged 86 years and 6 months. The deceased was born in Dutchess county, N. Y., April 9th, 1791. From thence, with her husband, in 1830, emigrated to Ohio, and settled on Hartland Ridge. Here, amidst the hardships and privations incident to a pioneer life, they succeeded in rearing a respectable family of children, and lived to see them comfortably situated in temporal things, rejoicing in the hope of a happy reunion in the better world.

JOSEPH PIERCE.

Mr. Joseph Pierce, of Lyme, near Bellevue, departed this life on Wednesday, May 9, 1877. Mr. Pierce had been identified with Bellevue and vicinity since the year 1832. A man of good sound character, and withal of much intelligence, he was often called to fill various offices in the gift of the people, in fulfilling the duties of which he showed himself to be a prompt, honest and energetic officer. For over forty years he had been a member and officer in the Lyme Congregational Church, and here, as elsewhere, was a kind, humble and devoted Christian, whose name was familiar to all, and honored as the type of true Christian manhood.

STEPHEN POST.

Born in the State of New York in 1809, Mr. Stephen Post came with his father's family and took possession of the first farm ever settled in Clarksfield township in 1816. (See Dr. A. D. Skellinger's address of July 4, 1876, in Vol. XII of *Pioneer*.) He was married to Miss E. L. Carlton, daughter of Rev. T. Carlton, in 1837, and continued to live near where his father settled, in Clarksfield and Hartland, until after his wife's death in June, 1866. He took an active part in local politics, and in the late civil war was strongly attached to the Union cause. In 1871 he again married Mrs. M. A. Wood, of New London, and from that time till his death resided in that village. His second wife dying in 1874, he again married—Mrs Flannery, but lived only a few months in his beautiful new home on Fitchville street. He died March 2d, 1877, regretted by all as a worthy pioneer and an honest man.

DANIEL REYNOLDS.

Died in Berlin, Erie county, on ——, aged four days less than 92 years. He came to Berlin from near Newbury, N. Y., in 1817, and was an industrious, energetic, and widely esteemed pioneer of that township.

MRS. I. T. REYNOLDS.

The community of Huron was greatly saddened by the death of Mrs. Reynolds, which occurred on the evening of June 8th, 1877. Mrs. Reynolds was so prominent a member of society, by reason of her many virtues and intelligence, and for so many years identified with the interests of the place and of the people, that her loss was more than usually felt. Her birthplace was Sullivan county, New York, from which place her parents emigrated, when she was but six years of age, to locate in the adjoining town of Florence. Here Margaret Furman (her maiden name) spent her youthful days until her marriage to Mr. Isaac T. Reynolds, Dec. 15th, 1830.

Thus, for almost half a century, has she been permitted to adorn "the doctrines of Christ" by her wifely and motherly fidelity. Her charities were many and quiet, seeking no ostentatious notice. Her death, like her life, was peaceful, calm and triumphant. She was a useful and honored member of the Congregational Church of Berlin Heights.

BARNET ROE.

Mr. Barnet Roe died at his residence in Greenfield township, Huron county, September 15th, 1877, at the age of 64 years. He was born in Northamptonshire, England, on the 3d of March, 1813. Mr. Roe came with his father's family into Cayuga county, New York, in 1822, where he remained until 1832, and that year they moved into Peru, Huron county. Six years after he was married to Miss Harriet Brightman, of Bronson, and soon after settled in Greenfield, where he spent the remainder of his life. He was the father of six children, five of whom are still living. He was a carpenter and joiner by trade, but was much of his life engaged in other employments. Being a man of great industry and perseverance, and having a mind adapted to mechanical resources, coupled with a resolute purpose, he exerted a wide and beneficial influence in the community where he lived. As a farmer he was alive to all the improvements in agriculture; as a mechanic, his judgment and taste were often brought into requisition by his neighbors, and his public spirit manifested itself in a variety of enterprises. He built, and for many years operated, the Phœnix Mills. At the same time he was extensively engaged in quarrying stone in the Greenfield quarries, and introducing it throughout this section of the country for useful and ornamental purposes. He was elected and served a term of three years as County Commissioner about twenty years ago, and was often entrusted with public business in his own township. As a public servant or a private citizen he was worthy of the respect and esteem which he received.

HARVEY SACKETT.

Mr. Sackett was born in Litchfield county, Connecticut, in 1791, came to Ohio in 1811, and served most honorably in the war which soon followed, until he was discharged at Lower Sandusky in 1813. He moved on the Fire Lands and settled in Ruggles township in 1825, and continued to live there—with the exception of two years in Ashland—up to the date of his death, August 11th, 1875. He filled nearly every office in the township, and for many years was Deacon of the Congregational Church, of which he had been one of the first members. He built the first brick house in Ruggles in 1834, and ever took great interest in the Fire Lands *Pioneer* and other enterprises for the good of society and the Christian Church. He was an honest, faithful and sincere man, and his life has left its impress for good on his neighborhood and society.

MRS. LYMAN SCOTT.

In Norwalk, on Friday, the 19th day of January, 1877, after a long and painful illness, died Mary McKenney, wife of Lyman Scott, aged 71 years 10 months and 28 days.

Mrs. Scott was born in Scipio township, Cayuga county, N. Y., February 22d, 1805. Her parents removed to Ohio in the year 1817, settling in Perkins township, then part of Huron county. The next year the family removed to Sandusky, where in 1819,

through the privations incident to the country, her father died, leaving penniless, among strangers, a widow with four small children, the two younger of whom were boys, and of whom the deceased, 14 years of age, was the eldest. The trials of such a family, at such a time and in such a country, may be imagined but not described, while the patience, frugality, perseverance and fortitude required to rear them to manhood and womanhood, suitably educated for usefulness, are their best commentary, yet this task was well and faithfully accomplished. November 6th, 1824, the deceased married Mr. Lyman Scott, of this place, who, at the age of more than eighty years, still survives her, having been a consistant follower of Christ, and a member of his church for more than half a century.

JOHN V. SHARP.

Mr. John V. Sharp, who became a resident of Norwalk in 1826, died at his residence on State street September 10th, 1877. His age was 72 years and 11 months. Mr. Sharp was a cabinet maker and carpenter by trade, and built for himself the first house erected on State street. He was an able, industrious artisan, and generally respected in society for his integrity and Christian manliness of character.

PETER SHERMAN.

At the residence of his son-in-law, Geo. A. Barnes, in Wakeman, Ohio, February 22d, 1878, Peter Sherman, aged 83 years. Mr. Sherman was an old resident of this place, and built the second frame house on the east side of the river, in which he lived at the time of his death. He was a distant relative of Secretary Sherman. He died respected by all.

MRS. ANN IDA SIMMONS.

Died at her residence in Greenfield, Huron county, on the 31st day of May, 1877, Mrs. Ann I. Simmons, aged 78 years and 3 months. She was the relict of Harlon E. Simmons (a sketch of whose pioneer life is in Volume XI, page 87, of the *Pioneer*), and had lived over fifty years on the farm where she died. She was greatly esteemed by the early settlers and neighbors for her kindness and virtue, and was an excellent specimen of a pioneer housewife.

MRS. DANIEL SOWERS.

Died at the residence of her daughter, at Four Corners, Huron county, Ohio, January 20th, 1878. Mrs. Mary A. Sowers, aged 72 years. Mrs. Sowers was born in Washington county, N. Y., February 3d, 1805. She came to Huron county with her father, Deacon John McMillain, in the year 1818; making the entire journey with an ox team, and being six weeks on the road from Buffalo to Monroeville. Deacon McMillain settled on the farm now owned and occupied by Nicholas Rupp. Mary A. McMillain was married to Daniel Sowers on the 13th day of December, 1821. On the fiftieth anniversary of their marriage, six years ago, their neighbors and children surprised them with a "golden wedding." Mrs. Sowers' early days were spent amid the hardships, trials and privations of pioneer life, and many, very many of the people of Ridgefield and Peru townships will recall many acts of kindness performed by her, as she ministered to the wants of the sick and dying, rich and poor alike. Her life throughout was that of a practical Christian in all respects.

DANIEL SOWERS.

Died at Four Corners, Huron county, October 26, 1877, Daniel Sowers, aged 79 years and 11 months. He was born November 14, 1797, in Baltimore county, Maryland, where he resided until some time in the autumn of 1811, when he moved with his father's family to Fairfield county, Ohio, where he remained until the year 1815, when the father and mother and three brothers came to Ridgefield township and located on the farm now owned by Thos. Cone, Esq., which at that time contained a good portion of what is now the village of Monroeville. They erected the second house built in the township, near a large tree still standing some twenty rods southwest of the residence of Thos. Cone.

Mr. Sowers married Miss Mary A. McMillain in 1821, who, with two sons, John and George, and three daughters, Mrs. Folger, Mrs. Mushett, and Mrs. A. M. Cornell, survive him —three children having preceded him to the other shore.

"Uncle Dan," as he was familiarly called, had lived at or near Monroeville for sixty-two years, and was perhaps as well and favorably known as any man that ever lived in Ridgefield township; and during this period, which has been longer than is usually allotted to man to live, he has sustained an untarnished reputation to the last, having been known as a man of strong principles and convictions, sterling integrity and strictly honest.

ISAAC STURTEVANT.

Isaac Sturtevant, of Ruggles, Ashland county, was a son of Deacon Bradford Sturtevant, of Richfield, Medina county, where he was born in 1822. The Deacon's was the second family that settled in Ruggles, that of Mr. Daniel Beach being the first. In 1836 the Sturtevants moved to Milan, but Isaac a few years after returned to Ruggles, and there resided until his death, January 26, 1878, at the age of 55 years. In 1849 he was married to Adelaide Carter, of which union there issued three children.

During his 34 years' sojourn he was an exemplary member of the Ruggles Congregational Church, and filled several township offices, such as Trustee, Clerk and Justice of the Peace. He was one of the Vice Presidents of our Historical Society, and an upright, zealous Christian, who will long be remembered in the affections of his neighbors.

JAMES SWEET.

Died in Fairfield, March 10th, 1877, of typhoid pneumonia, James Sweet, aged 90 years, 9 months and 10 days.

The deceased was born near New Bedford, Mass., in the year 1786, where he lived until about twelve years of age, when he left there, and afterwards lived in the States of New Hampshire, Vermont and New York.

While a resident of New York he carried the United States mail for some time, and since his arrival in this county held several local offices for a number of years in succession.

SAMUEL TELLER.

Mr. Samuel Teller, of Greenwich, who lived in Huron county for about fifty years, was born in Westchester county, New York, October 25th, 1797, and died in Greenwich, June 10th, 1877, aged 79 years. His mind was very retentive; his religion that of honesty toward God and his neighbor; in politics always an unterrified Democrat, and ever an enemy

to idleness and slothfulness. He very seldom allowed himself to remain from his home and family over night. He took pride in narrating the part he took in the burial of the last one of the three captors of Major Andre, the spy. He lost his first wife many years ago, and married for his second a Mrs Foster, of Norwalk, who yet survives him.

REVOLUTIONARY NAMES.

There is no State in the Union which has so honored the Revolutionary fathers in names of its counties as Ohio. First we have counties called for the Revolutionary Presidents: Washington, Adams, Jefferson, Madison and Monroe. Second we have the Revolutionary Generals in Warren, Greene, Montgomery, Putnam, Mercer, Hamilton, Knox, Wayne, Stark, Clinton, Fayette, Marion, Morgan and Shelby. Then we have counties named for three capturers of Major Andre, the colleague of Arnold—namely, Paulding, Williams and Van Wert. We have the Revolutionary names as civilians in Hancock, Franklin, Carroll and Harrison. We might add Jackson, since the immortal Andrew, although but a boy during the Revolution, received a wound in it from a British officer which he carried to his grave.

MISCELLANEOUS.

TRAMPS AND DEMAGOGUES.

From the Sandusky Register.

A reporter for the Cincinnati *Enquirer* has been playing tramp for a few days to see into the ways and life of the vast army of good-for-nothings, who prefer to beg or steal for a living. It seems to be the intention of certain writers for the press to fan the flame of Communism and promote the designs of the socialists, tramps and vagabonds by magnifying the troubles of the idle, the sufferings of those who for any cause are out of employment, and by words of maudlin sympathy for every dead beat and loafer wandering through the country. This reporter for the *Enquirer* is one of the mischief makers. His account of his experience and observation as a tramp will encourage naturally lawless men into acts of violence, and create discontent among those who are disposed to complain because they are compelled to labor. Somewhere on the road he joined company with a middle aged man, evidently an experienced tramp, whom he represents as one day asking him what he would do if his wife and children were hungry and he had nothing to give them. The reporter asked the tramp to answer his own question, and the answer was significant: "I would rob, and if need be, murder!" The reporter comments:

"The fierce earnestness with which these words were spoken only too well reflected the feelings of the majority of the men who are now tramping."

Later the two fell in with other tramps, until there was quite an army of them spending the night together. The reporter says:

"There was but one topic of conversation, and that was the times and when they were to change for the better. The hope of securing work had apparently vanished, and in its place there had grown a reckless disregard for the rights of property.

The conversation of these men led me to believe that all of them had a very clear idea of what was going on in the cities, and that they stood ready to supplement whatever the Communists might do."

In the morning the reporter and his first acquaintance separated from the balance of the gang of loafers and continued their tramp. Coming upon a farm house, they applied for food. The reporter says:

"A woman came to the door, who looked as if she had been shot out of a gun, curtly told us to begone, they had nothing for tramps.

From the fierce look that came into

my companion's face, I was fearful he would strike the woman to his feet, but, turning away, he walked off, and muttered "food and plenty everywhere, while we must beg to live."

"I'll tell you," said he, "the man that lives in that house, if trouble does begin, will wish he never had been born."

"Trouble," I replied, "what *trouble* do you refer to?"

"Don't you know," said he.

Professing profound ignorance, my knight of the jack plane went on to state that it was generally understood and talked among the tramps he had met that another winter could not come and find things as they are now; that revolution must ensue or times change; that the battle would be between capital on one side and labor on the other, and that it was likely to be precipitated at any moment. The above sentiment pervades the mind of nine out of ten idle men I have met."

It is probably correct to say that not one tramp in a hundred is a man of family, has anybody dependent on him for support, or cares a continental for anybody but himself. Most of them, as a matter of fact, are young men from eighteen to twenty-five years of age. The talk of this tramp about what he would do to secure food for his wife and children, is pure bosh, undoubtedly made up by the reporter. Men with wives and children whom they love are not likely to be tramping through the country, stealing chickens, begging at farm houses and talking communism. Even were he abundantly supplied with food at every farm house, given a good bed at night and furnished with pocket money to pay for tobacco and whisky, his family would not be better off. These tramps are professional beggars from choice, and tramp because they enjoy tramping rather than steady employment, at fair wages, in one locality. Nine out of ten of them would not remain at any given point they reach, if promised work, wages and food. We have several sample cases in mind, one of which we will give. Last fall a bright appearing, and decidedly intelligent tramp, came to the house of the writer and asked for breakfast. He was supplied with food. His story was that he had been thrown out of work at Dayton, and that he was tramping to Erie, where his mother lived. He said he was willing to work anywhere, and could do odd jobs of any kind. We gave him work, a place to sleep and food. For three weeks or more he was industrious, well-behaved and useful. He drew his wages a few cents at a time, then enough to buy a suit of clothes; and one bright morning, while in the start of a job which would have kept him busy for two weeks or more, he skedaddled, and we never heard of him again. Within the past year five and twenty compositors have come to and gone from the *Register* office, not one being contented to remain beyond a week. This tramping is a peculiar disease. When once it gets a man (it generally attacks very young men), it cannot be shaken off, and the victim becomes

a professional. It does not, however, attack until the victim by his own folly is in a ripe condition to be inoculated. A citation of two or three cases will illustrate what we mean, and show the condition of the victim on the eve of becoming a tramp. We have for years had in our employ a young man who has had fair wages for every day's work performed. There has not in eight years been a year when he could not earn at least $800. If he was idle a day it was his own fault and not ours. We needed his constant service. Contrary to our wishes and interests, and simply for self-gratification, he has lost at least one week in four during the past eight years. That loss of time would reduce his yearly income to $600. While idle, he has spent his time in saloons, spending at least one hundred if not two hundred dollars a year out of the $600. He has never expended to exceed $400 in the necessary support of himself and family. Here then is a dead loss of from $300 to $400 per annum, a total in eight years of $2,400 to $3,200, without counting possible accumulation of interest, and he has not a dollar of surplus to-day. That is one case. Four weeks ago we had two men in our employ, one making an average of fifteen and the other twelve dollars a week. Both were then assured steady work and regular pay. Both are now tramps somewhere. Both got drunk as fools, undertook to clean out the news room, and were bounced. One of these two, a single man, could have saved $400 per annum during the last five years as easily as to have saved a dime. When he was discharged he had a few dollars. A few days since the writer employed an idle man to do an odd job of work. The man fixed his own price, did the work satisfactorily, and finished about two o'clock. We said to him: "Keep on at this job and make a day of it, and we will pay you for the full day." He declined the offer, got his pay for the half day's work, and at sundown was staggering drunk, and without a cent of the money we had paid him. We doubt not every business man in this city has had similar experiences during the past four years.

Here then are four possible victims of the tramp disease. Such experience and observation are not calculated to excite in us a very profound sympathy for the tramp, and we can entertain nothing but contempt for the demagogues who, by professions of sympathy for professional beggars, deadbeats from choice, and scamps on general principles, seek to make political capital for any party or candidate for office. It may be that a really deserving man, suddenly thrown out of employment in a strange locality, is forced to turn tramp. For one such, there are ninety-nine who are the authors of their own misfortunes, and have become tramps from choice.

SOME THINGS THAT WERE NOT 100 YEARS AGO.

One hundred years ago wedding tours were not fashionable.

One hundred years ago the gin best known was not the cotton-gin.

One hundred years ago there were no Pacific Railroad subsidies.

One hundred years ago farmers did not cut their legs off with mowing machines.

One hundred years ago our mothers did not worry over disordered sewing machines.

One hundred years ago horses which could trot a mile in 2:14 were somewhat scarce.

One hundred years ago there was no fast mail train between New York and San Francisco.

One hundred years ago people did not enjoy the inestimable pleasure of growling about gas-bills.

One hundred years ago "crooked" whisky was not known. Our forefathers took theirs straight.

One hundred years ago university boat clubs were not entered at pool-sales like fighting-cocks in a pit.

One hundred years ago every young man was not an applicant for a position as clerk or book-keeper.

One hundred years ago false teeth were not considered very much preferable to the original grinders.

One hundred years ago time and tide waited for nobody, and now nobody waits for either time or tide.

One hundred years ago kerosene lamps did not explode and assist women to shuffle off the mortal coil.

One hundred years ago men did not commit suicide by going up in balloons and coming down without them.

One hundred years ago a young woman did not lose caste by wetting her hands in dish water or rubbing the skin off her knuckles on a washboard.

One hundred years ago the physician who could not draw every form of disease from the system by tapping a large vein in the arm, was not much of a doctor.

One hundred years ago the producer carried his surplus products to market on his horse, the products being placed in one end of the bag and the jug in the other end.

One hundred years ago our fathers did not light their pipes with matches, but carried fire in their pockets in the shape of a piece of punk, a piece of steel and a flint.

One hundred years ago the condition of the weather on the 1st day of January was not telegraphed all over the continent on the evening of December 31.

One hundred years ago people did not worry about rapid transit and cheap transportation, but threw their grain across the backs of their horses and uncomplainingly "went to mill."

One hundred years ago every man cut his coat according to his cloth—every man was estimated at his real value—shoddy was not known—nobody had struck "ile"—and true merit and honest worth were the only grounds for promotion.

THE FIRST ROADS.

Clark Eldred has furnished to the Elyria *Democrat* this account of the opening of the first highways west of Elyria, to Florence and Norwalk:

My father moved from Dover to Ridgeville in December, 1813, or January, 1814, and built a house. At that time there was no house west of us for the distance of twenty miles. About this time two families from Vermont came along, each having a wagon, and went through to Florence. There was no part of the road then opened, and the men would go ahead of the teams fifty or one hundred rods, cutting away the brush and logs, and then go back and bring up the wagons. The women would again hold the horses, while the men went ahead, and in this way they worked along, being four days going from Ridgeville to Florence, and sleeping on the ground.

Soon after this Esquire Barnum, who settled in Florence about two years before, going by way of the lakes, came through the woods guided by a pocket compass. He came to get my father to interest himself in having the people of Ridgeville open the road to Vermillion river, and a few days thereafter the arrangements were all made, and I was sent to Florence to let the people know when they would have it opened.

There had been heavy rains, and when I got to Vermillion river it was very high, and in attempting to ford it I went in up to my waist. The current carried me some rods down stream, and my pole would slip on the rock-bottom, and I was in great danger of drowning. By great exertions I succeeded in getting out on the same side I went in. It was now about sunset, and I was very wet and cold, but I made my way back to Ridgeville by moonlight, sixteen miles, all the way woods. I arrived at home before morning, the wolves following me four or five miles, close on my tracks, making a terrible howling.

A few days after this I made another effort to visit Florence, in which I met with no trouble. The road was surveyed by I. B. Morgan, and opened early in the winter of 1814. The work was done by the citizens of Ridgeville. Two or three would take their provisions in knapsacks and go out and work three or four days, when others would take their places, until the work was finished. I went with my father's oxen to haul the logs out of the road. They fed on the tender limbs of basswood trees, which I cut down for them to browse upon.

This work was performed without any pay, except the convenience resulting from having it opened. Some few years later this road was surveyed by order of the Commissioners, mainly on the line of the original opening. The citizens of Florence fulfilled their part of the agreement, and opened the road from that place to Norwalk.

I have tried to find some of the people who helped to open this road, but cannot. They have doubtless all passed away but myself.

FAST AND SLOW TRAVEL.

As a contrast with the tedious and painful journeys across the Firelands, so graphically described in the

memoirs of our pioneers, we clip from the Sandusky *Register*, of June 28th, 1878, a record of two trips on the modern plan:

We mentioned the fact in a previous issue that a special train with the Vanderbilt party passed through this city on Wednesday, and made the run from here to Cleveland in one hour and two minutes, including two stops. The following from the Toledo *Blade* is of interest in that connection: The fastest time ever made on the Lake Shore road was the run from this city to Cleveland on Wednesday of the Vanderbilt train, consisting of two cars and an engine, the Franklin. They left Air Line Junction at 12:51, and made the remarkable time of 108 miles in 106 minutes.

THE ART OF LONGEVITY.

In a communication to the *Herald of Health*, written a short time previous to his death, Mr. William Cullen Bryant, the veteran editor and poet, thus described his mode of life:

I rise early—at this time of the year about 5:30; in summer, half an hour, or even an hour earlier. Immediately, with very little incumbrance of clothing, I begin a series of exercises, for the most part designed to expand the chest, and at the same time call into action all the muscles and articulations of the body. These are performed with dumb-bells, the very lightest, covered with flannel; with a pole, a horizontal bar and a light chair swung around my head. After a full hour, and sometimes more, passed in this manner, I bathe from head to foot. When at my home in the country, I sometimes shorten my exercises in the chamber, and going out, occupy myself for half an hour or more in some work which requires brisk exercise. After my bath, if breakfast be not ready, I sit down to my studies until I am called.

My breakfast is a simple one—hominy and milk, or, in place of hominy, brown bread, or oatmeal, or in the season baked sweet apples. Buckwheat cakes I do not decline, nor any other article of vegetable food, but animal food I never take at breakfast. Tea and coffee I never touch at any time. Sometimes I take a cup of chocolate, which has no narcotic effect, and agrees with me very well. At breakfast I often take fruit, either in its natural state or freshly stewed.

After breakfast I occupy myself awhile with my studies, and then, when in town, I walk down to the office of the *Evening Post*, nearly three miles distant, and after about three hours, return, always walking, whatever be the weather or the state of the streets. In the country I am engaged in my literary tasks, till a feeling of weariness drives me out into the open air, and I go upon my farm or into the garden, and prune the trees, or perform some other work about them which they need, and then go back to my books. I do not often drive out, preferring to walk.

In the country I dine early, and it is only at that meal that I take either meat or fish, and of these but a mod-

erate quantity, making my dinner mostly of vegetables. At the meal which is called tea, I take only a little bread and butter, with fruit, if it be on the table. In town, where I dine later, I make but two meals a day. Fruit makes a considerable part of my diet, and I eat it at almost any hour of the day without inconvenience. My drink is water, yet I sometimes, though rarely, take a glass of wine. I am a natural temperance man, finding myself rather confused than exhilarated by wine. I never meddle with tobacco, except to quarrel with its use.

That I may rise early, I of course go to bed early—in town as early as ten; in the country, somewhat earlier. For many years I have avoided in the evening every kind of literary occupation which tasks the faculties, such as composition, even to the writing of letters, for the reason that it excites the nervous system and prevents sound sleep.

My brother told me, not long since, that he had seen in a Chicago newspaper and several other western journals, a paragraph in which it was said I am in the habit of taking quinine as a stimulant, that I have depended upon the excitement it produces in writing my verses, and that, in consequence of using it in that way, I had become as deaf as a post. As to my deafness, you know that to be false, and the rest of the story is equally so. I abominate all drugs and narcotics, and have always carefully avoided everything which spurs nature to exertions which it would not otherwise make. Even with my food I do not take the usual condiments, such as pepper and the like.

LIVE OLD MEN.

Is it not a little remarkable that the men now busy at the horseshoe table in the Berlin Congress, somewhat presumptuously trying to make a new map of Europe for the next generation, are all old men. Prince Gortschakoff was born in 1800, Lord Beaconsfield in 1805, and Prince Bismarck in 1813. The youngest of the three is 65, the next 73, and the oldest 78. Thus all had their birth within the present century, and although Bismarck owes to a stormy youth and to brandy an inconvenient cutaneous disease and an irritable temper, and Disraeli's bodily condition is very feeble, and Gortschakoff leans heavily on his cane, and stands with one foot, as it were, in the grave, each and all are in full active possession of their extraordinary mental faculties. The Emperor of Germany was born in 1797, and, in his eighty-second year, he is now, despite the wounds recently inflicted on him by the assassin Nobeling, stronger, physically, than either of the trio of eminent statesmen just named.

The late Pius IX died this year at the age of 86, and his successor, Leo XIII, is but 68. Lord Lyndhurst was born in Boston, Mass., in 1772, and lived to be 91. Lord Brougham was born in 1779, and lived to be 81. Lord Landsdowne was 89 when he died, and the late Earl Russell was

86. Guizot was 87, and Thiers 80. Count de Walleck, French artist and archæologist, died in 1875, at the age of 101. All these old men were very much alive almost up to their last breath. So were Lord Brougham, who died at 89, and Lord Palmerston, at 81. So are John Bright at 67, and Mr. Gladstone, who writes about old Homer and discusses domestic and foreign politics, and cuts down trees as lustily as ever, at 74.

So, too, were Charles Carroll, of Carrollton, a signer of the American Declaration of Independence, who lived to be 91; and four Presidents of the Continental Congress—John Jay, 84; Thomas McKean, 82; Elias Boudinot, 81, and Arthur St. Clair, 84. The first Chief Magistrate of our Republic, George Washington, died when he was but 68. Five other Presidents of the United States lived to be 80 or more—John Adams dying in his ninety-second year; Thomas Jefferson, at 83; James Madison, at 85; John Quincy Adams, when almost 81, and Martin Van Buren at 80. Six more lived until past 70—James Monroe, who died in his 72d year; Andrew Jackson, at 78; John Tyler, at 74; Millard Fillmore, at 74, and James Buchanan at 67. Stephen Girard died at 81, and John Jacob Astor at 85. Chief Justice Marshall lived to 80, and Chief Justice Taney to 87, both far beyond the juvenile Judge Sutherland, who was ready to have retired from the bench on account of his age, which nobody would have guessed. Charles O'Conor is 74. George Bancroft and Caleb Cushing are each 78. Simon Cameron, at 80, is still deemed not safe against the wiles of widow Oliver. Thurlow Weed is 81. Peter Cooper is as amiably visionary in politics and as active in beneficence as ever at the age of 87. The death of William Cullen Bryant, a victim of sun-stroke, is now being everywhere mourned as premature, even at 84. Richard Henry Dana, the poet, who first introduced to the public the author of "Thanatopis" more than 60 years ago, survives him at the age of 91. Walt Whitman, the "good poet," notwithstanding his venerable appearance, the result not of years, but of his patriotic toil in taking care of sick and wounded soldiers in the late war, is only 59. Oliver Wendell Holmes is 59. Whittier and Longfellow are each 71. Emerson is 75. Victor Hugo is 76. Charles James Matthews is 75. Buckstone is 78. Carlisle is 83.

If it were not indiscreet to say anything about the ages of women, numerous instances of longevity, at least equally striking to those which precede, might be cited. It will suffice to allude to the well-attested case of the Countess of Desmond, in Ireland, who reached her one hundred and fortieth year, and is said to have renewed her teeth in extreme old age, and that of Susan Edmonds, who in the ninety-fifth year of her age had her hair change to black and again become gray previous to her death, at 105. Similar mysterious changes in the color of the hair are sometimes remarked, nowadays, with much

younger women. Without adding to the many ungallant editorial conjectures as to the age of Miss Anthony, the subject may be dismissed with the consolatory scientific deductions from statistics relating to it, that, according to Buffon, from 90 to 100 years may be allowed as the natural life of man; that, according to Hunter, man's extreme limit of life might not be less than two centuries; and, finally, that according to Dr. Sweetzer, the average duration of human life has in no time of which we have authentic knowledge reached so high a figure as at the present day.

A FRENCH LOVE STORY.

Two wedding couples presented themselves at the mayorality in the suburb of Paris to carry out the civil portion of their marriage contract. They ranged themselves on opposite sides of the Mayor's official throne, and faced one another. The Mayor was asking a question of one of the bridegrooms, whose attention was thus distracted from his bride. On turning round to look at her when he had answered the question, he caught her making "sheep's eyes" at the bridegroom opposite. Being of a jealous temperament, he laid his hand roughly on her arm and said, sharply:

"Mademoiselle, which of the two brides are you? You are mine, I believe, then oblige me by confining your glances to me."

The bride was a young woman of spirit, and resenting the tone in which the reprimand was made, retorted:

"Ah, monsieur, if you are so jealous already, I am not likely to lead a pleasant life with you!"

The jealous bridegroom made an angry reply, and then the other bridegroom must needs put his oar in.

"Pah! monsieur, why should you make such a fuss because mademoiselle chooses to favor me with a glance?"

Thereat his bride turned savagely upon him and exclaimed: "Ha! monsieur, it would seem, then, that you like to have ladies make eyes at you! Now I know what to expect from you, but you might at least have the decency to keep this proof of your faithlessness concealed from me here."

And with this fierce thrust she burst into tears. In vain the Mayor attempted to pacify both parties. The bridegrooms stormed at each other, and the brides, between their hysterical sobs, mutually accused each other of perfidy. What was to be done?

At last the Mayor, losing temper, cried out: "Am I to proceed with this ceremony or am I not?"

The two brides, with one accord, screamed "No!"

"Perhaps," said the Mayor, whose wrath had again cooled down, "you could arrange matters between yourselves if you were left alone. The clerk will show you to my private room. I will give you half an hour."

At the expiration of that time the parties were summoned to appear before the Mayor."

"Have you settled your difficulty?" he asked.

"Yes, Monsieur le Maire," exclaimed both bridegrooms at once.

"Oh, then I may proceed with the cremony?"

"Yes, Monsieur Maire; but—but—"

"Well, what is it?"

"We have effected a change, Monsieur le Maire."

"A change! What do you mean?"

"A change of brides, Monsieur le Maire."

And so it was—the jealous bridegroom had taken the jealous bride, and the young lady of the fickle glances had taken the gentleman who liked ladies to "make eyes" at him. The astonished Mayor looked at them in silence and amazement for a moment or two, but they met his look unabashed, so he shrugged his shoulders and said:

"Well, if you are satisfied, it is no business of mine. I will proceed with the ceremony."

And married they were.

THE OLD FORSAKEN SCHOOL-HOUSE.

BY JOHN H. YATES.

They've left the school house, Charley, where years ago we sat,
And shot our paper bullets at the master's time-worn hat;
The hook is gone on which it hung, and master sleepeth now
Where school-boy tricks can never cast a shadow o'er his brow.

They've built a new, imposing one—the pride of all the town,
And laughing lads and lasses go its broad steps up and down;
A tower crowns its summit with a new, a monster bell,
That youthful ears, in distant homes, may hear its music swell.

I'm sitting in the old one, with its battered, hingeless door;
The windows are all broken, and the stones lie on the floor;
I alone of all the merry boys who romped and studied here,
Remain to see it battered up and left so lone and drear.

I'm sitting on the same old bench where we sat side by side
And carved our names upon the desk, when not by master eyed;
Since then a dozen boys have sought their great skill to display,
And like footprints in the sand, our names have passed away.

'Twas there we learned to conjugate "amo, amas, amat,"
While glances from the lasses made our heart go pit a-pat;
'Twas here we fell in love, you know, with girls who looked us through—
Yours with her piercing eyes of black, mine with eyes of blue.

Our sweathearts—pretty girls were they—to us how very dear—
Bow down your head with me, my boy, and shed for them a tear;
With them the earthly school is out; each lovely maid now stands
Before the one Great Master, in the house not made with hands.

You tell me you are far out west; a lawyer, deep in laws,
With Joe, who sat behind us here, and tickled us with straws;
Look out for number one, my boy; may wealth come at your touch;
But with your long, strong legal straws don't tickle me too much.

Here, to the right, sat Jimmy Jones—you must remember Jim—

He's teaching now and punishing, as master punished him;
What an unlucky lad he was; his sky was dark with woes;
Whoever did the sinning, it was Jim who got the blows.

Those days have all gone by, my boy; life's hill we're going down;
With here and there a silver hair amid the school boy brown;
But memory can never die, so we'll talk o'er the joys
We shared together in this house when you and I were boys.

Though ruthless hands may tear it down—this old house, lone and drear—
They'll not destroy the characters that started out from here;
Time's angry waves may sweep the shore and wipe out all beside—
Bright as the stars that shine above—they shall for aye abide.

I've seen the new house, Charley; 'tis the pride of all the town,
And laughing lads and lassies go its broad steps up and down;
But you nor I, my dear old friend, can't love it half so well
As this condemned, forsaken one, with cracked and tongueless bell.

THE OLD FASHIONS.

The apparel, as has been said "oft proclaims the man"—and we may add, the woman; and certainly the customs of the days of the Revolution had a picturesqueness which is wanted to our more extensive luxury. The wigs and bands of the clergy gave them a notable appearance in the pulpit; and the cocked hats which they wore in the street distinguished them from their brethren of to-day, whose white cravats sometimes make it difficult to discriminate between them and the hotel waiters or ordinary diners out. The gentleman in those days wore, when he went out, a wig, a white stock, a white satin embroidered waistcoat, black satin small clothes, white silk stockings, and a fine broadcloth or velvet coat. At home, instead of his wig, he had on a velvet cap, and sometimes a fine linen one under it; and his coat gave place to a gown—frequently of colored damask lined with silk—while fancy colored leather slippers covered his feet. Ladies wore those elegant silk and brocade dresses which are still so much admired; and their hair dressed with powder and pomatum, was elevated much higher above their heads than the most soaring and ambitious locks of their descendants of the present day.

In those days a gentleman's snuff-box was as indispensable as the cigar-case is now, and courtesy was shown in taking the weed in this form with a friend. The houses in those days, with their spacious halls and their ample fireplaces and stairways, were very suggestive of solid comfort. Bright brass andirons, the use of which has lately been revived, were common in Revolutionary times, and were features of a luxurious household. Rings were given as presents at funerals to pall-bearers and particular friends; and the Rev. Andrew Elliot, of Boston, who died in 1778, left a "mug-full" of these articles, which had been presented to him on such occasions. Hotels on the scale

of our caravansaries were unknown; but there were taverns and coffee-houses where a good deal of solid comfort could be secured. Such are some of the manners and customs of our Revolutionary ancestors, whose stately courtesy and dignity covered so much of the genuine nobility and worth that we cannot but feel interested in whatever distinguished them from their descendants of to-day.

THE BIBLE.

McCullough.

How comes it that this little volume, composed by humble men in a rude age, when art and science were but in their childhood, has exerted more influence on the human mind and on the social system than all the other books put together? Whence comes it that this book has achieved such marvelous changes in the opinions of mankind—has banished idol worship—has abolished infanticide—has put down polygamy and divorce—exalted the condition of women—raised the standard of public morality—created for families that blessed thing, a Christian home—and caused its other triumph by causing benevolent institutions (open and expansive) to spring up as with the wand of enchantment? What sort of a book is this, that even the wind and waves of human passion obey it? What other engine of social improvement has operated so long, and yet lost none of its virtue? Since it appeared, many boasted plans of amelioration have been tried and failed—many codes of jurisprudence have arisen and run their course and expired. Empire after empire has been launched on the tide of time, and gone down and expired. But this book is still going about doing good—leavening society with its holy principles—cheering the sorrowful with its consolation, strengthening the tempted, encouraging the penitent, calming the troubled spirit, and smoothing the pillow of death. Can such a book be the offspring of human genius? Does not the vastness of its effects demonstrate the excellency of the power to be of God?

REV. HARRY O. SHELDON.

(See Frontispiece.)

Among the venerable pioneers who were present at the last annual meet- of our Society—held at Norwalk during the publication of this volume—was a tall old gentleman, whose appearance would have been notable in almost any gathering. With the snows of nearly eighty winters on his head, he was still keen-eyed, nimble, and erect. As he moved around gaily to reciprocate the greetings of the aged compeers, his smile, and joke, and ready repartee, betokened him a person of genial disposition and abounding vitality. Such, indeed, was the nature of the man. Unknown to the majority of the younger folks present, he was welcomed by the veterans with special cordiality. With some of them he had toiled when the wilderness was impassable; with most of them he had prayed when the clearing was but the cradle of a Christian community. With all the pioneers present, the Rev. Harry O. Sheldon, of Peru, was the type of a missionary. He was an apostle who had been a backwoodsman. He was a Christian who had swung the axe all day long in a clearing, and stood up in the evening among the tree-stumps to preach and pray.

At the meeting in question Mr. Sheldon was called on to offer a prayer. He did so with the pathos of eighty years. For the youth he prayed blessings such as a patriarch might invoke. For himself and his cœvals he prayed peace and thankfulness, and resignation to the divine will that was soon to call them hence. Every soul was moved. The prayer struck a chord in every heart. The sires and the striplings were together before God.

Towards the close of the meeting Mr. Sheldon requested leave to present the Society with his portrait for publication. It was accepted with a grateful and affecting vote. We give it to our readers as the frontispiece of the present volume. We shall not at this time supply the particulars of the pioneer missionary's life. Long may it be, in the providence of God, ere his biography shall need to be written. We shall merely refer the reader to the "Recollections" of Rev. H. O. Sheldon, published in the last volume (XII) of the *Pioneer*. When his toils are at an end, and he has lain to rest in God, we know that loving hearts and faithful pens will tell the story of his many eventful days. That pleasant years may yet intervene for him, will be the prayer of every child of the Fire Lands.—[Ed. Pioneer.]

TO THE READER.

After twenty years of a somewhat chequered existence, the Fire Lands PIONEER has reached its Thirteenth volume. In all these pages, from first to last, the purpose of the Pioneers has never been lost sight of. The men who cut down this wilderness, that we might build pleasant homes and cities on it, had a right to leave these mementoes of their doings. For the enlightenment of posterity, both state and nation, require these records. For the verity of history they are all valuable. How little soever each district should contribute, all such chronicles are part of the history of the western Republic. It is the duty of every pioneer to tell the story of his toil and progress. And in the effort of individuals is the history, and in their success is the growth, of a great nation.

Shall the children of our Fire Lands pioneers neglect this work? Or shall they foster and patronize the publication which was begun by their fathers? They carry out the problem of settlement into the fact of civilization—shall they neglect the chronicle that their sires were proud to begin? We trust not. This Thirteenth volume is even more interesting than any of its predecessors. It comprises an invaluable collection of personal and historical notes. It glances into the past and reviews the present. Much even that we might have published in it, of surpassing interest, is compelled to lie over for want of space. Those who have the last memory of pioneer days will soon be removed from us. Shall we tenderly gather their stories ere yet they pass away, or leave them to sink into utter oblivion?

By the welcome which this volume meets we must determine our duty. We have made it the most attractive of any yet published. We have added an index, which will render all its predecessors familiar and valuable. The remnants and traditions of aboriginal life, the teeming stories of local history, the narratives of personal toil and achievement, of trial and suffering, of the men who made the land to bloom and fructify, have been classified and indicated in a way to meet the wants of the philosopher who would

study, or the child who would trace affectionately the footprints of his progenitors.

If the children of the Pioneers will only give this work the patronage of which it is worthy, there are loving hands that will soon again collect for them the memories of their sires. Even now arrangements are in progress pointing to its continuous and more regular publication, and on a plan which shall give even greater satisfaction. THE PUBLISHING COMMITTEE.

FIRE LANDS PIONEER.

INDEX.

VOLUMES I TO XIII, INCLUSIVE.

☞ The subjoined topical Index embraces the contents of the FIRE LANDS PIONEER from its first issue, in June, 1858, down to the present one—Vol. XIII—of July, 1878. To make it fully available, where the volumes are bound up together, or the numbered wrappers wanting, the reader must understand and apply the following

KEY:

The first two volumes came out in parts, at irregular intervals, and separately paged, so that their contents have to be indicated by the DATE of the part, to be found at the head of every page. Of the remaining eleven volumes, III to XIII, none but the last has its numerical order shown in the page headings, and the dates corresponding are here supplied, as a necessary clue to the VOLUME NUMBERS in the Index. The following is the date succession of all the Parts and Volumes:

Referred from Index by DATES.		Referred from Index by VOLUME NUMBERS.	
June, 1858, Part 1,	Vol. I	June, 1862,	Vol. III
November, 1858, Part 2,	Vol. I	June, 1863,	Vol. IV
March, 1859, Part 3,	Vol. I	June, 1864,	Vol. V
May, 1859, Part 4,	Vol. I	June, 1865,	Vol. VI
November, 1859, Part 1,	Vol. II	June, 1866,	Vol. VII
March, 1860, Part 2,	Vol. II	June, 1867,	Vol. VIII
September, 1860, Part 3,	Vol. II	June, 1868,	Vol. IX
September, 1861, Part 4,	Vol. II	June, 1870,	Vol. X
		October, 1874,	Vol. XI
		September, 1876,	Vol. XII
		July, 1878,	Vol. XIII

A

Aboriginal Fire Lands, The—By S. A. Wildman, XIII, 37.

ADDRESSES, Historical Society.

By Hon. Eleutheros Cooke, Norwalk, June '58, 1. Hon. E. Whittlesey, Norwalk, *id.*, 13. Hon. John Sherman, Milan, November '58, 5. Rev. James B. Walker, Sandusky, May '59, 1. Rev. S. A. Bronson, Norwalk, November '59, 1. Charles P. Wickham, Norwalk, September '61, 7. Rev. Samuel D. Smith, Lyme, *id.*, 31. E. Lane, Norwich, Vol. III, 54. Rev. L. B. Gurley, Norwalk, IV, 9. Hon. Joseph M. Root, Wakeman, *id.*, 21. John Keep, New London, V, 21. Col. Chas. Whittlesey, Monroeville, VII, 11. Professor Hartupee, Vermillion, *id.*, 16. Rev. John Safford, Bellevue, *id.*, 28. John Seymour, Bellevue, *id.*, 34. Rev. L. B. Gurley, Vermillion, *id.*, 64. G. T. Stewart, Norwalk, VIII, 29. Rev. X. Betts, Wakeman, IX, 27. Dr. A. D. Skellenger, New London, X, 16. Rev. L. B. Gurley, XI, 13. Dr. A. D. Skellenger, New London, XII, 30. Hon. J. M. Root, Norwalk, *id.*, 37. P. N. Schuyler, Huron, XIII, 6. Hon. A. W. Hendry, Norwalk, *id.*, 25. Judge Chas. Waterbury, Sandusky, *id.*, 30. S. A. Wildman, Centerton, *id.*, 37. Rev. J. S. Broadwell, Norwalk, *id.*, 52.

AGRICULTURE.
Tillage under arms, November, '58, 45. Plowing in prairie lands, VI, 20. First threshing machines in Ohio, VII, 10. Old and modern methods in, VIII, 47. A pioneer corn husking, IX, 91.
Ancient Remains, see TOWNSHIPS.
Anecdotes—Of an Irish soldier, March, '60, 44. Of a wonderful Dutch name, IV, 73. An acceptable minister, VI, 78. Of five generations, *id.*, 99. Of a salt dealer, VII, 53. Of General Wayne, *id.*, 60. Of birth places, *id.*, 91. Washington's last vote, VIII, 104. The old black bull, X, 80. Of Tecumseh, *id.*, 101. Of a Quakeress, XI, 48.
(See also MEMOIRS, personal, and REMINISCENCES.)
Antiquarian—Death of a Reserve, V, 109.
ANTIQUITIES—Of Maine, VIII, 106. At Worthington, Ohio, *id.*, 107. Western, IX, 117. (See also MOUNDS, RELICS, etc.)
Anti-Tobacco Law—A Puritan, X, 82
APPLESEED, JOHNNY—As a scout, November, '59, 37. Curious account of, V, 60. Another sketch of, XI, 89.
Archæology—A State Association of, XII, 125.
ARTISANS—Sixty-five miles for a blacksmith, III, 85. Shoemakers at a premium, VI, 24. Smith work for a land title, IX, 50. A pioneer Jack-of-all-trades, X, 23.
AVERY—Establishment of Fort at, September, '60, 5. At the camp in 1812, XIII, 80. (See also various memoirs of MILAN.)

B

BANKS—Almost a, IV, 91. The Owl Creek, VI, 42. Some shaky concerns, VII, 52.
BEARS and Bear Stories—Hunt of a black bear, June, '58, 34. After a Johnny Cake, *id.*, 38. Brought in on a litter, November, '59, 8. Tussle with a young one, *id.*, 20. Surf bathing of, *id*, 37. Bruin and the hogs, *id.*, 40. Hand to hand fight with, III, 19. Encounter with a family of, IV, 77. Seth Brown's hog and the, V. 30. A growl in the dark from, *id.*, 90. Bruin and the mush, VI, 22. Hunt of on the Marsh, VII, 61.
BEES—A tragic hunt for, March, '59, 27. Honey hunts in Richmond, November, '59, 47. Interesting hunt of, V, 40. Death of Cooper's hunter, XI, 45.
Benevolent Institutions—See TOWNSHIPS.
Benjamin Summers, A life sketch, By P. N. Schuyler, XIII, 65.
BERLIN—Memoir of Township, November, '58, 31. Same continued, III, 13.
Biographies and Autobiographies—See MEMOIRS and REMINISCENCES.
BIRMINGHAM—Memoir of Township, September, '61, 21.
Black Hawk—Account of, VII, 85.
BLOOMINGVILLE—Erection of blockhouses at, III, 41. Account of, IV, 91.
BOOK NOTICES—New England Historical Register, Congregational Quarterly, and Historical Magazine, III, 95. First American printed, VI, 97. Washington's Text Book, VII, 98. Ohio Valley Historical Series, IX, 109. (See also Sundry notices in the MEETINGS.)
BRONSON—Memoir of Township, March, '59, 37. Same continued, II, 9. Early settlers in, V, 113. More about it, by M. Kellogg, VI, 52.
Buffaloes in Ohio, June, '62, 92.

C

Camp Avery in 1812, XIII, 77.
Catawba Island—See DANBURY.
CATTLE—Bloody murrain among the, IV, 87. Milk sickness in, VIII, 94. Murrain at Clarksfield, XII, 98.
CELEBRATIONS—Fourth of July in pioneer times, V, 34. Fourth at Fairfield in 1822, *id.*, 37. Opening of Erie Canal, VII, 76. First Church organization at Pomfret, Ct., *id.*, 101. Cahoon Pioneers, VIII, 77. Waggoner Family, *id.*, 99. Settlement of Ohio, IX, 22. Cahoon Family, *id.*, 55. Independence Day at Licking Summit, X, 94. A Pastor's at Huron, XI, 45.
Centenarian—A pioneer, IX, 62.
Centennial Historical Address—By P. N. Schuyler, XIII, 6.
Chagrin—Something about pioneers of, VIII, 69.

CHICAGO—First vessel at, V, 107. The oldest inhabitant of, VI, 77. Newspapers and growth of, *id.*, 102. As it was in 1833, IX, 64.
Christmas—A pioneer's, March, '59, 32.
Church—Startling scene in a. VII, 117.
CHURCHES—Founding of, (See the various Township Memoirs.)
CHURCHES, Histories of—Presbyterian of Norwalk, September, '61, 45. First Church of Pomfret, Ct., VII, 103. First Presbyterian of Milan, IX, 69. M. E. at Perkins, XI, 40. St. Paul's Episcopal at Norwalk, XII, 45. Universalist Society, *id.*, 61. Christ Church at Huron, *id.*, 63. The Methodists of Hartland, XIII, 92.
CLARKSFIELD—Settlement of, June, '58, 45. Memoir of Township, November, '58, 18. Same by E. M. Barnum, May, '59, 23. First settlers of, XII, 34. Interesting particulars of, *id.*, 97.
CLEVELAND—Glimpse of in 1810, VI, 11. In 1796, *id.*, 59. First execution in, VII, 66. Comparison with Sandusky, IX, 76.
CLOTHING—Early masculine attire, June, '58, 6. Buckskin unmentionables, November, '59, 17. In pioneer times, March, '60, 7. Suit about an overcoat, *id.*, 9. Use of deer skins for, IV, 74. Cost of material of, *id.*, 74. Of the ladies in old times, *id.*, 74. A weary barter for, V, 81. How pants were patched, *id.*, 82. Costumes of 1819, VI, 50. Of the ladies in pioneer times, VIII, 81.
CONNECTICUT, State of—Title and first settlement of, June, '58, 16. School fund of, III, 30. Our Summer Home in, by T. L. Cuyler, VI, 60. Grant and settlement of the Colony, XIII, 7. The School Fund, *id.*, 10. (See also WESTERN RESERVE and FIRELANDS.
COOKE'S CORNERS—A settlement at, VII, 36. Origin of name, etc., XII, 38.
Coon Skin Library, The, VII, 41.
Courting—Methods of, in pioneer times, IV, 76. Two hundred years ago, VIII, 73. Perils of in 1812, VIII, 94.
CRIME in the Firelands (excluding Indian)—Murders in Sandusky, March, '57, 20. Wife murder at Wakeman, November, '59, 39. Trial for infanticide, IV, 58. A horse stealing missionary, VI, 94. Novel labor penalties for, IX, 61. A Mormon homicide, X, 21. (See also LAW, LAWYERS, etc.)

D

DANBURY—Memoir of Township, X, 63. (See also PENINSULA.)
Death Penalty, The, X, 83.
DEER—A bear, or a deer, or something. September, '61, 22. A big drove, V, 68. Seventy-five in a day, VI, 11. About a snake and, *id.*, 16. Taste of for apples and wheat, VII, 39.
Defiance seventy years ago, III, 88.
DISEASES—Cholera, case of on the Lake, VII, 57. Sickly seasons of 1819 and 1836, VIII, 91. Mountain fever, IX, 53. (For Cholera see also various memoirs of SANDUSKY.)
DOCTORS—Female, on Kelley's Island, IV, 36. Practice of, in early days, V, 47. Old time bills of, VII, 73. Long rides for medicines of, IX, 21. Of an Indian, *id*, 24. Experience of with Indians, X, 13.
DOCUMENTS, old—Letter of 1812 on Mason's death, III, 30. Old election returns, XI, 44. Old Monroeville deed, XIII, 78. (See also reports of Historical Society MEETINGS.)
DOMESTIC LIFE, Etc.—Rude living in Norwalk, May, '59, 30. Cradled in a sap trough, November, '59, 17. A bureau with a history, III, 83. A *racer* bedstead, V, 78. A *flip-ding* candle, IX, 15. Economy of, *id.*, 16. Utensils and customs of, *id.*, 19. A marvelous bed-quilt, XI, 51. A start in house-keeping, *id.*, 57. Housewifery at Milan, XII, 84. (See also MEMOIRS AND REMINISCENCES.)

E

Early Settlers on the Peninsula, by Chas. Waterbury, XIII, 30.
EDUCATION—Discipline in pioneer schools, November, '58, 22. First Sunday School, September, '61, 16. Eccentric school teacher, III, 23. A resolute set of pupils, V, 79. Services of Judge Lane to, VIII, 58. (For local school histories see TOWNSHIP Memoirs.)

Eldridge—See BERLIN Township.
Erie Canal—Opening of the, VII, 76. Meeting of the waters, XI, 47.
Erie County—Origin of, XIII, 19. (See also FIRELANDS.)
Erie Lake—See LAKE ERIE.
Evenings with the Pioneers, a series of newspaper sketches, VI, 54; VII, 74; VIII, 107.

F

FAIRFIELD—Memoir of Township, V, 36.
Family Gathering, A remarkable, VII, 27.
Farm Houses in New England, VII, 98.
Fifty Years Ago. by Rev. J. Seward, VI, 69.
Fifty Years Ago and Now, by L. B. Gurley, IV, 9.
FIRE LANDS, The—First settlement of June, '58, 4. Early days in, *id.*, 7. Title to, *id.*, 20. Land Titles in November, '58, 6. Reminiscences of, March, '59, 29; *id.*, 31, 33, 42, 46; May, '59, 45; *id.*, 35. First military company on, March, '59, 2. First Sabbath School on, September, '61, 16. First settled minister in, III, 27. Early political divisions of, *id.*, 49. Extinction of Indian title to, *id.*, 53. First election in, *id.*, 82. First poem written in, IV, 18. Jesuit mission in, *id.*, 22. Do the islands belong to, *id.*, 30. History of title grant, *id.*, 95. Surveys of, V, 93. Yankees on the, *id.*, 119. Religious interests of, VIII, 16. Geology of, *id.*, 42. First Postoffice in, X, 26. Settlement and Organization of, *id.*, 85. Pioneer ministry of, XI, 13. Title and partition of, XIII, 14. First white settlers, *id.*, 15. The Aborigines of, *id.*, 37.
Fire Lands Historical Society, see HISTORICAL SOCIETY.
FIRE LANDS PIONEER, The—Early difficulties of, June, '58, 45. First prospectus, *id.*, 46. Appeal for, September, '61, 32. Notice to readers of, III, 96. Report on prospects of, VI, 81. To the friends of, VIII, 119. Delay in publication of, XI, 1. Plans for republishing, *id.*, 9-12. Publishers' notice on, *id.*, 119. Bills for publication, XII, 7.
First American Flag, The, X, 78.
First American Poetry, The, III, 91.
First Births and Deaths, see TOWNSHIPS.
First Marriages, see TOWNSHIPS.
First Prayer in Congress, IX, 107.
First Public Library in the Northwest, X, 107.
First white settlers, see TOWNSHIPS.
FITCHVILLE—Memoir of Township, May, '59, 31. Another account of, IX, 73. Obituary of Pioneers of, *id.*, 82. First pioneer of, *id.*, 111, First settler of, XII, 34.
FLORENCE—Memoir of Township, November, '59, 15. Same by Eldad Barber, *id.*, 19. Settlement of, XII, 33.
FOOD and Food Supplies. Pork in 1815, June, '58. 42. Fat pork and potatoes, November, '58, 21. Pork, hominy, and whisky as staples, March, '59, 28. An aboriginal table cloth, May, '59, 46. Hog and pumpkin sauce, March, '60, 7. Primitive cookery of, IV, 74. Scarcity of salt, V. 24. Corn and pork sixty years ago, V, 32. Salt at a premium, *id.*, 72. Prices of supplies, 1815-17, VI, 5. Johnny Cake coffee, *id.*, 56. Coon fat and potatoes, IX, 17. Mince pie under difficulties, XI, 17. Dairy products of the Reserve, XIII, 94.
Franklin's Lightning Rod, VI, 95.
Funerals, old-fashioned, VII, 99.

G

GAME—Turkeys by the million, June, '58, 34. A grand battue of, March, '59, 17. Abundance in Fairfield, V, 37. How to catch wild turkeys, *id.*, 82. Plenty in Perkins, VI, 21-3. Lively pigeon hunting, *id.*, 56. A wild cat chase, XII, 126. (See also BEARS, DEER, etc., and TOWNSHIP Memoirs.
GAMES and Pastimes—Summary of pioneer, June, '58, 6. Charivaring at Greenfield, VII, 62. A pioneer dance, VIII, 68.
Genesee Country, The, by Rev. P. Church, VII, 111.
GEOLOGY—Of Ohio, May, '59, 10. Of the Richmond Marshes. V, 59. Of Ohio and the Fire Lands, VII, 42. (See also SURVEYS and TOWNSHIP Memoirs.)
GOLDEN WEDDINGS—Dr. Metcalf's in Hudson, VI, 66. Col. James Smith's at Lyme, VII, 100. B. B. Burk's, Cayuga county, IX, 112. Mr. Dittoe's, Perry county, *id.*,

114. Daniel Chandler's, X, 28. Walter Betts', Vermillion, *id.*, 30. Roger Fox's, *id.*, 31. Coles, Miles, Adams and Cowles couples, XI, 56.
Governor Tiffin, VIII, 104.
Grape Culture—History of on Kelley's Island, IV, 45, First steps in at Vermillion, VIII, 48.
GREENFIELD—Memoir of Township, November, '58, 13, Last Charivari of, VII, 62. As it was in 1819, XI, 88. First settler of, XII, 33.
GREENWICH—Memoir of Township, V, 69. First settlers of, XII, 44.
GROTON—Memoir of Township, June, '58, 45.

H

HARTLAND—Memoir of Township, 14, 49. Leaves from the history of, X, 51. Church chronicle of, XIII, 92.
Hieroglyphic Tree, A, June, '62, 46.
HISTORICAL SOCIETY, The Fire Lands—Circular of inquiry by, June, '58, 26. First constitution of, *id.*, 29. Purposes and progress of, III, 87. Loyal resolutions by, IV, 2. Report of Secretary on Museum, Finances, etc., VI, 80. List of members of the, *id.*, 86. Same continued, VII, 94. Same continued, VIII, 74. Amended Constitution of, *id.*, 119. List of members continued, IX, 85. Same continued, X, 32. Amendments to constitution of, XI, 2. Resolutions on Horace Greeley by, *id.*, 27. Place for annual meetings of, *id.*, 34. Condition of museum, XII, 6. List of members continued, *id.*, 127. Initiation and growth, XIII, 21. (See also MEETINGS.)
HISTORICAL SOCIETIES—Ohio State, June, '58, 14. Urging one for State, March, '60, 1. Address before Lorain county, September, '61, 37. Cincinnati Pioneer Association, V, 117. A good suggestion on, IX, 113. List of the Ohio, X, 50. Richland county, proceedings of, *id.*, 113. Exchange of courtesies with, XI, 9. (See also PIONEER ASSOCIATIONS.
History, Initial facts in our, VII, 97.
HOGS—Bruin and the, November, '59, 40. Wild ones in Norwich, March, '60, 45. Adventure with wild, IV, 63. Universal stealing of, VII, 39.
Hospitality of Pioneers, June, '62, 42.
HURON COUNTY—Creation of, June, '58, 21. Organization and first county seat, *id.*, 24. Old probate records of, March, '60, 21. First white settler in, III, 73. First coffee in, *id.*, 85. First criminal trial in, IV, 58. Census of in 1827, V, 116. The last wolf in, IX, 87. Oldest township clerk of, *id.*, 114. History before organization, XII, 31. Temperance League of, *id.*, 69. The original, XIII, 15.
HURON, Erie County—Visit to in 1808, June, '58, 43. Memoir of Township, IV, 65. How it looked in 1810, VI, 57. First death at, *id.*, 65. Morals at in early days, VII, 52. History of township, XII, 19. Christ Church, *id.*, 63.
Huron River, Sanitary attributes of, XII, 20.

I

Illinois, The name of, VI, 101.
INDIANS—The tribes on the Fire Lands, November, '58, 6. Skirmish with on Peninsula, March, '58, 5. False alarm of, *id.*, 20. Outrages by near Mansfield, November, '59, 37. Ben Newcomb's traffic with, *id.*, 45. Horse stealing by, March, '60, 5. Hanging of two at Norwalk, *id.*, 18. Doings at Norwich of, *id.*, 35. Capture of boy by, *id.*, 44. Senecas at Peru, *id.*, 47. Account of some Christian, September, '60, 3. Affection for graves of, *id.*, 6. Raid on Margaretta by, *id.*, 12. Old trail at Norwalk of, *id.*, 40. Two men slain at Sandusky by, *id.*, 46. Campaign of Gen. Wayne against, September, '61, 37. Massacre at Lower Sanqusky by, *id.*, 41. Murders near Oxford by, III, 42. The Moravian missions to, *id.*, 66. Cruel massacre of by whites, *id.*, 71. Encounter on the Maumee with, *id.*, 82. Pursuit of at Mansfield, *id.*, 84. On a spree at Norwalk, *id.*, 85. War clubs of, *id.*, 89. Wyandots, IV, 22. Of the Lake Islands, *id.*, 32. Maple sugar by, *id.*, 61. Dealings at Fairfield of, V, 41. Temperance questions among the, *id.*, 68. Bad treatment of by whites, *id.*, 99. Murders at Cold Creek by, *id.*, 101. Canoe building and other industries of, *id.*, 112. A truant squaw, *id.*, 115. Boy captured by, VI, 34. Murders on the Peninsula by, *id.*, 43. Conjugal affection of, *id.*, 99. Fur trade with, VII, 53. Trial for murder of, *id.*, 67. Taste for buttermilk of, VIII, 82. Scalping of Captain Builderbaugh by, IX, 103.

Practice of surgery among, X, 13. Captivity of Rue and Holman with, *id.*, 55. Shooting of Dan Diver by, *id.*, 99. Massacre at Margaretta by, XI, 33. On the Cuyahoga, *id.*, 38. Child stealing at Norwalk, *id.*, 82. Demand for fire water of, XII, 92. Algonquins and other parent tribes, XIII, 39. The language of the, *id.*, 48. Works of on the Huron, *id.*, 91.

INDIAN REMAINS—Findings in Wakeman Township, November, '59, 42. On Kelley's Island, IV, 31. Skeletons on Elm Creek, X, 116. Discovery at Port Clinton of, XI, 53. Findings at Put-in-Bay, XII, 125. (See also MOUNDS, RELICS and TOWNSHIP Memoirs.)

Indian Tribes or Settlements—See TOWNSHIPS.

Items from the Battle Fields, by Capt. Chauncey Woodruff, XII, 87.

J

Johnson's Island, Account of, V, 97.

Jonathan Edwards as a Land Speculator, III, 93.

K

KELLEY'S ISLAND—Historical sketch of, IV, 30. Old name of, XIII, 15.

Kenton, General Simon, VII, 106. (See also GIRTY.)

L

LAKE ERIE—Early steam navigation on, IV, 33. How Captain Austin navigated, *id.*, 78. Encroachment of on the land, *id.*, 86. Commerce on a hundred years ago, V, 109. Launch on in 1816, VI, 16. Old steamboats on, *id.*, 96. The Great Lakes and, *id.*, 99. Mound forts on the shores of, VII, 15. Early history of, IX, 45. First vessel on, XI, 49.

LAND TITLES—In Ohio and Fire Lands, November, '58, 6. Difficulties about in Norwich, March, '60, 37. On the islands, IV, 31. Won by labor, V, 37. Cost in money of, VIII, 48. Bought with whisky, IX, 18. Exchanged against smith work, *id.*, 50. Disputes on between Connecticut and Pennsylvania, XIII, 8. To the Reserve, etc., *id.*, 12.

LAW AND LAWYERS—The Bar in its infancy, June, '58, 25. A runaway jury, November, '58, 29. First suit in the Fire Lands, November, '59, 3. Suit about an overcoat, March. '60, 7. Hans and Jacob in court, *id.*, 69. Trial for infanticide, IV, 58. Happy close to a suit, V, 38. Trial of Indians for murder, VII, 67. A good and honest judge, VIII, 101. Labor penalties at, IX, 91. First trial in Sandusky County, X, 60. A Puritan anti-tobacco law, *id.*, 82. The death penalty, *id.*, 81. Advent of in the Fire Lands, XIII, 18.

Lawyers of the Fire Lands, Old, by Hon. J. M. Root, XII, 36.

Lessons of the War, by G. T. Stewart, VIII, 29.

Life in New England, IX, 101.

LITERARY SOCIETIES, etc.—A "social library" in 1818, November, '58, 17. A pioneer of one book, September, '61, 19. Amusing debate in Vermillion, IV, 74. The "coon skin library," VII, 41. (See also EDUCATION.)

LOG HOUSES—Pleasures of log raising, November, '58, 20. Mode of constructing, May, '59, 33. Raising at Norwalk, March, '60, 17. How Platt Benedict's went up, September, '60, 42. Sundry raisings of, V, 38. Material and windows of, IX, 75. Notching logs for, *id.*, 92.

Longevity—Of some early missionaries, III, 74. A pioneer centenarian, IX, 62. Remarkable family for, XI, 44. Statistics concerning, *id.*, 50. Interesting instances of, *id.*, 51. Of the Trimmer family, XII, 112. The art of, XIII, (Miscellaneous.)

LYME—Memoir of Township, November, '59, 7. Settlement of, XII, 33.

M

Madison, Pioneer life at, X, 102.

Major Gladwyn and the Indian girl, by Col. Chas. Whittlesey, VIII, 9.

Mansfield, Early times in, X, 113.

Manufactories and Mills—See TOWNSHIPS.

Maple City, The, or Norwalk in 1878, by P. J. Mahon, XIII, 87.

MARGARETTA—Early history of, September, '60, 8. Massacre by Indians at, XI, 33.

Marriage a hundred years ago, June, '62, 90.

Marshes—Cranbury marshes, November, '58, 31. Of the Richmond township, V, 58. Bear hunt in the, VII, 61.

Mayflower, List of Pilgrims by the, March, '60, 19.

MEETINGS, Historical Society—Organization, Norwalk, June, '58, 29. Reunion, Norwalk, *id.*, 30. Second, Norwalk, *id.*, 30. Third, Norwalk, *id.*, 30. Fourth, Sandusky, *id.*, 31. Annual (1858), Norwalk, November, '58, 1. Regular, Milan, *id.*, 2. Quarterly, Sandusky, March, '60, 1. Quarterly, Plymouth, *id.*, 3. Annual, 1860, Norwalk, September, '60, 1. Quarterly, Birmingham, September, '61, 1. Quarterly, Milan, *id.*, 3. Quarterly, Lyme, *id.*, 4. Annual (1861), Norwalk, *id.*, 5. Quarterly, Berlin Heights, III, 1. Quarterly, Greenfield, *id.*, 4. Annual (1862), Norwalk, IV, 1. Quarterly, Wakeman, *id.*, 4. Quarterly, Peru, *id.*, 7. Annual (1863), Norwalk, V, 1. Quarterly, North Fairfield, *id.*, 3. Quarterly, New London, *id.*, 5. Quarterly, Castalia, *id.*, 8. Annual (1864), Norwalk, VI, 1. Quarterly, Perkins, *id.*, 3. Quarterly, Monroeville, *id.*, 5. Annual (1865), Norwalk, VII, 1. Quarterly, Vermillion, *id.*, 4. Quarterly, Bellevue, *id.*, 6. Quarterly, Plymouth, *id.*, 8. Annual (1866), Norwalk, VIII, 1. Quarterly, Greenfield Center, *id.*, 3. Quarterly, Centerton, *id.*, 5. Quarterly, Townsend Center, *id.*, 7. Annual (1867), Norwalk, IX, 1. Quarterly, Fitchville, *id.*, 4. Quarterly, Wakeman, *id.*, 6. Quarterly, Clyde. *id.*, 10. Same meeting, from Sandusky *Register*, *id.*, 14. Annual (1868), Norwalk, X, 1. Quarterly, Groton, *id.*, 2. Quarterly, Sandusky, *id.*, 4. Quarterly, Monroeville, *id.*, 6. Annual (1869), Norwalk, *id.*, 7. Quarterly, New London, *id.*, 9. Annual (1870), Norwalk, XI, 1. Quarterly, Wakeman Station, *id.*, 5. Annual (1871), Norwalk, *id.*, 8. Quarterly, Milan, *id.*, 15. Annual (1872), Norwalk, *id.*, 18. Quarterly, Townsend Center, *id.*, 23. Quarterly, Bellevue, *id.*, 26. Annual (1873), Norwalk, *id.*, 28. Quarterly, Monroeville, *id.*, 31. Annual (1874), Norwalk, *id.*, 34. Quarterly, Wakeman, XII, 1. Quarterly, Greenwich Station, *id.*, 3. Nineteenth Annual (1875), Norwalk, *id.*, 6. Quarterly, Huron, *id.*, 11. Quarterly, Bellevue, *id.*, 13. Twentieth Annual, Norwalk, *id.*, 15. Twenty-first Annual, Norwalk, XIII, 1. Quarterly, Huron, *id.*, 3. Quarterly, Sandusky, *id.*, 3. Quarterly, Centerton, *id.*, 4.

MEMOIRS, PERSONAL—Of Luther Coe, November, '58, 46. Rev. Alvin Coe, November, '59, 42. Benjamin Newcomb, *id*, 44. Major Fred. Falley, September, '60, 28. Mr. and Mrs. Brown, of Margaretta, *id.*, 33. Major David Underhill, *id.*, 37. John Morton (Signer), III, 43. Dr. Charles Smith, *id.*, 47. John Garrison, *id.*, 76. Capt. William Austin, IV, 77. Elisha Whittlesey, V, 10. Samuel Foote, *id.*, 36. Eli S. Barnum, *id.*, 91. Daniel Page, *id.*, 100. The Hester family, *id.*, 102. The Gibbs family, *id.*, 110. Old Squire Case, *id.*, 114. Hon. Eleutheros Cooke, VI, 8. The Lockwood family, *id.*, 20. Thomas D. Webb, *id.*, 29. Ezra Wood, *id.*, 58. Oliver Culver, *id.*, 59. The Rogers family, *id.*, 68. Leonard Case, *id.*, 75. Peter Brown, *id.*, 82. William Robinson, *id.*, 83. Hiram Rogers, VII, 57. Ebenezer Merry, *id.*, 58. Peter Lake. *id*, 59. John B. Flemmond, VIII, 21. Polly Pierce, *id.*, 23. Col. James Smith, *id.*, 40. Hosmer Merry, *id.*, 28. Ebenezer Lane, *id.*, 49. Mrs. Kneeland Townsend, *id*, 61. John Dillingham, *id.*, 70. Charlotte Merry, IX, 59. Mother Green, *id.*, 103. Caleb Atwater, *id.*, 117, Dr. Daniel Tilden, X, 12. Three Smith Brothers, *id.*, 19. Father Joe Merrifield, *id.*, 22. Peter Kinsley, *id.*, 25. Mr. C. Cockler, *id.*, 99. Dr. Taliaferro, XI, 41. Capt. Hiram Smith, *id.*, 48. Horace Kellogg's war record, *id.*, 58. Lewis family, *id.*, 80. Mrs. E. L. Gibbs, *id.*, 83. Franklin Sawyer's war record. XII, 77. Susan A. Wilbur, *id.*, 90. H. M. Cunningham, *id.*, 95. Jonathan Oldfield, *id.*, 99. N. M. Standart, *id.*, 101. Rev. E. Conger, *id.*, 102. Stephen and Emeline Robinson, *id.*, 105. Elizabeth Trimmer, *id.*, 110. Capt. Josiah Pelton, *id.*, 111. Harvey Fowler, *id.*, 112. Benjamin Summers, XIII, 65. John H. Niles, *id.*, 74. (See also REMINISCENCES, and for condenced memoir, the various TOWNSHIPS.)

Mental and Moral Characteristics of the Pioneers, by Rev. J. S. Broadwell, XIII, 52.

Merchants and Traders, Local—See TOWNSHIPS.

METALS and MINERALS—Silver find at Ridgefield, V, 27. Iron and lead traces, XI, 52. (For local mineral resources see TOWNSHIPS. See also GEOLOGY.)

MILAN—Memoir of township, November, '58, 25. Another account of, *id.*, 54. First settlers in, March, '59, 1. Incidents of 1812 at, *id.*, 4. Further reminiscences of, March, '60, 12. Canal to the lake from, *id.*, 15. Early events in, September, '60, 3. Gas spring near, VI, 100. Some early settlers of, VII, 58. Laying out the town, IX, 61. First Presbyterian Church at, *id.*, 69. (See also Lockwood family and other MEMOIRS.)

Milan Canal—First vessel in, March, '60, 15. Grain traffic by, September, '61, 44.
MILITARY—First company on Fire Lands, March, '59, 2. Militia of Huron county in 1814, *id.*, 28. Festive reunion of Northern Ohio Regiments, XI, 47. Roster and battle record of the 123d Ohio, *id.*, 58. Fire Lands Volunteers in the Mexican war, XII, 10. Muster roll and battles of the 8th Ohio, *id.*, 77. History of Company D, 34th Regiment, *id.*, 83. Items from the battle fields, *id.*, 87. (See also WARS of the Revolution, 1812, and Rebellion.)
MILLS and MILLING—Pioneer grist mills, November, 58, 17. First on the Vermillion, id., 23. Built with a single shovel, March, '59, 16. First extensive flouring, September, '60, 18. How grinding mills were built, *id.*, 45. Military processes in 1820, IV, 93. Kinsley's big mill, X, 25.
MISSIONARIES—A thrice-delivered sermon by a, November, '59, 34. Of the Moravian Church, III, 54. A garden made in the wilderness by, *id.*, 69. A model Moravian, *id.*, 74. An early Jesuit peace-maker, IV, 22. The pioneer, V, 103. Origin of the Methodist, IX, 114. A stone-mason minister, XI, 24. About the Moravians, *id.*, 43. (See also MEMOIRS and REMINISCENCES of various clergymen.)
Minute Men of the Revolution, VII, 115.
MONEY—Barter of produce, June, '58, 5. Corn for currency, *id.*, 24. *Sharp shins* as a medium, March, '59, 8. Salts for "soap," May, '59, 36. *Shin Plasters*, September, '60, 20. Wolf scalps as currency, V, 86. First paper in America, VII, 99. Credit and cash, VIII, 43. The word *Money*, *id.*, 105.
Monroeville, Past and Present, by H. M. Addison, XIII, 77.
MORAVIANS, The—Mission on the site of Milan by, March, '60, 14. History of missions, by Ebenezer Lane, III, 54.
Morehead, the trapper, account of, V, 61.
Morton, John, in memory of, III, 43.
MOUNDS and FORTS—Remains in at Berlin, November, '58, 32. Bones and remains in the Ohio, May, '59, 4. Who were the builders of, *id.*, 10. In the township of Milan, March, '69, 12. Of stone in Margaretta, September, '60, 10. Remains in at Ridgefield, V, 27. Discussion on, VI, 7. Mound builders of Ohio, VII, 11. Discoveries in at Clarksville, Ind., IX, 109. Treatise on the origin of. *id.*, 118. On the Peninsula, X, 66. The mounds at Marietta, *id.*, 75. Sundry discoveries in, XI, 53. Speculations on, XIII, 50. Remains of on the Huron, *id.*, 71.

N

NAMES—For origin of local names see TOWNSHIP Memoirs. Flexibility of Indian dialects in, IV, 21—Wonders of some early Dutch, *id.*, 72. Origin of "Brother Jonathan," XIII, 96.
Natural Features—See TOWNSHIPS.
New Connecticut—See Western Reserve.
NEW HAVEN—Memoir of Township, March '59, 7. Personal recollections of, Nov. '59, 45. First settlement of, XII, 33.
NEW LONDON—Memoir of Township, IV, 52. Additions to history of, V, 111. Further account of, X, 18. First settlers in, XII, 35.
NEWSPAPERS—History of the Fire Lands Press, Sept. '61, 7. A story of types, III, 93. The Hartford *Courant*, VI, 67. Sandusky *Clarion*, history of, VIII, 110. Norwalk *Reflector* IX, 79. Norwalk *Experiment*, XI, 101. (See also in the TOWNSHIPS.)
Night of Terror, A, XIII, 35.
NORWALK—Memoir of Township, June '58, 32. First mills in, March '59, 48. Another Township history, by Platt Benedict, May '59, 16. First lady's carriage at, *id.*, 19. Memoir of Township, by H. Lockwood, May '59, 25. Scanty food supplies at, March '60, 18. Probate records of, *id.*, 21. First post office at, Sept. '60, 41. Stamp mills at, *id.*, 45. Newspaper press of, Sept. '61, 14. Early settlements in fourth section of, V, 21. Trial of Indians for murder at, VI, 50. Removal of county seat to, VII, 54. History of *Reflector*, IX, 79. Old Fourth of July at, *id.*, 81. Early settlers of, *id.*, 105. The Comstocks of, *id.*, 106. The Gibbs farm at, XI, 49. Some first settlers of, *id.*, 80. The Gibbs family, *id.*, 83. Some family reunions at, *id.*, 90. First land buyers at, XII, 33. St. Paul's Episcopal Church at, *id.*, 46. Temperance League of, *id.*, 69. Universalist Church at, *id.*, 126.
NORWICH—Memoir of Township, March '60, 32.

NUPTIAL—Marriage a hundred years ago, III, 90. Golden Wedding in Hudson, VI, 66. Hymen at Bucyrus, *id.*, 101. Golden wedding at Lyme, VII, 100. Married in a wagon, VIII, 102. Old time notice, *id.*, 115. A coatless groom, IX, 38. Golden wedding in Cayuga County, *id.*, 112. Truly golden, *id.*, 114. First on the Reserve, *id.*, 115. A trio of golden weddings, X, 30. Sale of a wife, *id.*, 67. Cluster of golden weddings, XI, 56. Golden wedding at Fitchville, *id.*, 91.

O

OBITUARIES, Pioneers'.

Jemima Keeler, November, '59, 48. William Cherry, III, 78. John Weeden, *id.*, 78. Asa Dille, *id.*, 79. Mrs. Nancy Perkins, *id.*, 90. William and Reuben Henry, Samuel McIbeath, Robert McFarland, V, 110-11. Francis Howe, Henry Taylor, Vespasian Stearns, William Carl, Mrs. Timothy Baker, Hon. Ebenezer Andrews, Mrs. Datus Kelly, Mrs. Hubbard Hollister, *id.*, 120-3.

Vol. VI, Pages 115 to 123—Stanton Sholes, Mrs. Mary Beebe, Joseph Kelly, Henry Reed, Sr., Rev. Daniel Waldo, John Cuppy, Mrs. John McCord, Gen. Robert Bentley, Joel Downs, Cyrus Cunningham, Major Wm. McLaughlin, Mary M. Hester, Noah Hill, Dr. John H. Matthews, Philo Adams, Daniel J. French, Mrs. Ann Baum, Dr. Henry Niles, Dr. Peter Allen, and Mrs. Urania Fenn.

Vol. VII, Pages 77 to 84—Joseph Taylor, Datus Kelley, Mrs. Pliny Brown, Nahum Gilson, Ezra Chappell, Mrs. Catherine Penfield, Judge Darius Lyman, Nathan Perry, Henry Lockwood, Aunt Polly Pierce, and Roswell Eddy and others of Perkins.

Vol. VIII, Pages 85 to 89. Platt Benedict, Rouse Bly, Joab Squires, Benjamin Benson, Robert Crow, and Mrs. Nancy Ransom.

Vol. IX, Pages 93 to 103—William Kelly, Mrs. Julia Taylor, Mrs. J. Buchanan, Mrs. E. Delamater, Mrs. Grace Prentiss, Ami Palmer, Charles Hubbell, Ebenezer M. Barnum, Samuel Bristol, Union White, Aaron Rowland, John H. Rule, William Gibbs, Mrs. Susan Austin, Chas. A. Preston, and John Sowers. Some Pioneers of Fitchville, *id.*, 82.

Vol. X, Pages 35 to 49—Elijah Bemiss, Geo. H. Woodruff, Martin Hester, Gideon Waugh, Seth C. Parker, Nelson Taylor, John Cherry, Wm. H. Crane, Lydia Kinsley, Daniel Chandler, John Gagaman, and Ebenezer Osborn.

Vol. XI, Pages 92 to 118—Samuel B. Lewis, Orlando F. Curtiss, Joel E. Mead, Charles L. Boalt, Mrs. James Williams, Mrs. Bradstreet Stevens, Margaret (Lewis) Gibbs, Rev. Elder Barber, Johnson Wheeler, Thos. Puckrin, Catharine (Van Ness) Carpenter, Julius House, Clement Beardsley, Sheldon Smith, Rev. X. Betts, Mary McMillan, Benjamin L. Hill. Hiram Boardman, Cyrus Lyman, Stephen Sawyer, Polly Sampson, Daniel Hemingway, Mary Hathaway, Jane Cuddleback, Elihu Clary, Joseph C. Curtis, Theodia Smith, Horace Ramsdell, Mary Barnes, Neverson Sherman, Benjamin P. Smith, David H. Pease, Rebecca Phillips, Mrs. Moses Burnham, Levi R. Sutton, Philip Moffatt, Chas. Keith, Robert W. Betts, Isaac Miller, Lydia Kellogg, Jacob Sherbonts, Ira Parsons, Anson Wilson, Mrs. Wm. Parrish, Simon H. Sprague, Jabez Deming, Violetta Manahan, Andrew Wood, Virgil Squires, Jonas Leonard, Julia Johnson, Perry Beckwith, Betsey Rundle, Bethuel Cole, Lester Clark and wife, Laura Underhill, David Stiles, Jarrus Kennan, David Walsworth, Mrs. C. A. Morse, William Bowen, Salmon Green and wife, Warren Reynolds, Susan Wyatt, Edward J. Bunce, Abel F. Eaton, Sophia F. Sturges, Alexander Porter, Joseph M. Farr, John Fox, A. C. Colgrove, Edwin Woodruff, Ann Smith, Isaac Frayer, Lucy Kingsbury, Dr. X. Phillips, Mrs. S. Conklin, Mrs. Abijah Roberts, John F. Dewey, Ambrose Smith, Joseph Travis, Chas. Russell, Mrs. Mary F. C. Worcester, Mrs. Mathew Keller, Burgur Mott, Mrs. M. Thatcher, Mrs. G. Stanford, Rev. Chas. F. Lewis, James O. Merrifield, Seba Mather, Jacob Burdue, Sarah Washburn, William Humphrey, E. B. Hadley, O. P. Woodward, Mrs. H. Graves, Catharine Sutton, Milton Slater, Moses P. Brewster, J. R. Graves, Mrs. F. B. Severance, Julia Johnson, Mrs. P. Allen, Mrs. Electa Bassett, Dr. D. C. McConoughey, Addison Ingalls, Mrs. Jacob Wilson, E. H. Gibbs, Mrs. Anna Smith, Jonas Leonard, Conrad Linder, Azel Mead, George Rumsey, Samuel B. Caldwell, Alanson Cleveland, Judge William Tilden, John P. McArdle, Mrs. Susan King, James Williams and wife, Martin Denman, Chas. L. Boalt, Mehetable Shourds, Mrs. Mary Foster, George Gauff and Isaac Powell.

Vol. XII, Pages 114 to 124—Thomas Hamilton, Sr., Harlon E. Simmons, Edmund

W. Mead, Levy Rash, Miner Lawrence, Susannah Briggs, Mrs. Nabby Gilson, Mrs. Benjamin Summers, Elanson Rose, Gurdon Woodward, Moses Sowers, Sarah Nicolls, Debora F. Patrick, Leicester Walker and wife, Frederick Kittredge, Eliza G. Follett, Walter Bates, J. E. Hanford, Adaline H. Peters, Alvin Brightman, Electa Herrick, Harrison Wilt, George Skaats, Rufus Shelden, Mrs. Jerusha Tainter, Charles Child, Anna Harris, Orrin M. Babcock, Eunice Brown, Levi Rosco, Mrs. H. Minuse, Sally Conger, Joseph Burnside, Levi Palmer, Dr. Alfred Segur, Amy G. Smith, Dr. Austin Starbird, Nath'l Mills, R. W. Stevens, Lucy Stevens, Benjamin Williams, Levi Devoe, and Amy Angel.

Vol. XIII, 106 to 114—Benoni Adams, Henry Anderson, Theo. Baker, Timothy Baker, Zelotus Barritt, Mrs. Fanny Beach, Leonard Benson, Walter Branch, John Buchanan, Temperance Church, John Clark, Winthrop Clough, Joseph B. Darling, John Denman, Mrs. Sarah Downs, Joseph French, Mrs. Betsey Foster, Mrs. Clarissa Gallup, Hallet Gallup, Mrs. Sally O. Gilson, Mrs. Eliza J. Haskell, George C. Huntington, Franklin Jones, Mrs. Sally Keeler, Benjamin Kniffin, Thomas Lawrence, John Laylin, Allan Lindsley, Henry F. Merry, Mrs. Eliza Merry, Daniel Miner, Joseph Moore, Rundle Palmer, Miss Hannah Palmer, Oliver Peak, Mrs. Maria Philips, Joseph Pierce, Stephen Post, Daniel Reynolds, Mrs. I. T. Reynolds, Barnet Roe, Harvey Sacket, Mrs. Lyman Scott, John V. Sharp, Peter Sherman, Mrs. A. J. Simmons, Daniel Sowers, Mrs. D. Sowers, Isaac Sturtevant, James Sweet, Samuel Teller.

OGONTZ—Story of, IV, 25.

Ogontz Place. See various memoirs of Sandusky.

Ohio Canal, The, X, 94.

OHIO—State of. Land titles in, November '58, 6. First colony in, *id.*, 10. Remains in the mounds of, May '59, 1. Geology of, *id.*, 10. Territorial and State laws of, III, 49. First white child in, *id.*, 69. Last buffaloes in, *id.*, 92. The oldest resident of, June '62, 94. First white born in, letter from, V, 108. Canal from the Hudson to, VI, 98. First threshing machines in, VII, 10. Geology of, *id.*, 42. Oldest natives of, *id.*, 96. Something about pioneer times in, *id.*, 118. Railroads first projected in, VIII, 51. Oldest person in, *id.*, 95. Capitol of in 1817, IX, 111. Historical societies in, X, 50. Fifty-four years ago, *id.*, 52. First court of, and its lawyers, *id.*, 62. Age of, XI, 41. Oldest citizen of, *id.*, 46. First Temperance Society in, XII, 76.

Old and New, The, VII, 33.

Old Black Bull, The, X, 80.

Old Soldier An, VIII, 105.

Olden Times, A Humorous Picture of, X, 40.

Orchards. How Johnny Appleseed planted, V, 59. Abundance of at New Milford, X, 73.

Our Old New England Homes, X, 109.

Our Summer Homes, by Rev. T. L. Cuyler, VI, 60.

Over the Left, X, 78.

OXFORD—Memoir of Township, III, 39. Same continued, IV, 88.

Panthers—Involuntary hunt of a, III, 83. Story of a, VI, 16.

PENINSULA. The—Skirmish with Indians on, May '59, 37. French settlers on, IV, 29. Murders by Indians on in 1819, VI, 43. Danbury Township, X, 64. Early settlers on the, XIII, 30. (See also, DANBURY, PORTLAND and SANDUSKY.)

PERKINS—Memoir of Township, VI, 9. Account of settlement, *id.*, 19. Another account, by John F. Greene, *id.*, 23. Notes on organization of, IX, 43. Age of Methodist Church at, XI, 40.

PERU—Memoir of Township, June '58, 36. Incidents of settlement, *id.*, 41. Further memoir, by Levi R. Sutton, March '60, 46. Settlement of, XII, 34.

PIONEER ASSOCIATIONS—Meeting of the Cincinnati, V, 117. Meeting at Dover of, VI, 62. The Maumee Valley, *id.*, 64. Excursion of the Cincinnati, VII, 86. Correspondence with Maumee Valley, VIII, 7. Hamilton County, celebration of the, IX, 22. Inaugural of the Mad River Valley, X, 89. Of Medina County, XI, 51.

PIONEER LIFE—A brief history of, by Daniel Reynolds, September '60, 24. Recollections of, by John Laylin, III, 81. Influence on character of, IV, 13. Incidents in, by Ruth, VIII, 65. In old times, XIII, 17. Mental and moral features of, *id.*, 52.

Plymouth Rock—Account of, III, 89. Monument of, IX, 114. (See also MAYFLOWER.)

POETRY—

Specimen of pioneer poetry, November, '59, 5.

No time like the old Time, by O. W. Holmes, VII, 41.

The Old Canoe, *id.*, 105.
Your Mission, *id.*, 110.
Sapphic for Thanksgiving, by W. B. Tappen, VIII, 98.
Forty Years Ago, *id.*, 99.
New England in the West, by Thos. B. Read, *id.*, 100.
The Old fashioned Choir, by Bayard Taylor, IX, 47.
When You and I were Young, Maggie, *id.*, 56.
Pioneer Song, by Gen. L. V. Bierce, X, 7.
Over the River, by Mrs. A. C. Wakefield, XI, 76.
Death of a Pioneer Mother, by W. H. C. Hosmer, *id.*, 77.
An Old Song, *id.*, 78.
Centennial Day, by Mrs. E. S. Kellogg, XII, 17.
Dorothy Q, by Oliver W. Holmes, *id.*, 64.
Lament of Grandmother Grumble, by Helen J. Angell, *id.*, 65.
Battle of Lake Erie, *id.*, 66.
Old Grist Mill, by R. H. Stoddard, XIII, 68.
Old and Young, by C. P. Cranch, *id.*, 68.
Aunt Hannah's Advice, *id.*, 73.
Golden Milestone, The, by H. W. Longfellow, *id.*, 76.

PORTLAND—Memoir of Township, March, '59, 16. (Embraces SANDUSKY, which also see.)

PORTRAITS, Steel—Platt Benedict, President of the Historical Society, with Vol. I. Elisha Whittlesey, Vol. V. Eleutheros Cooke, Vol. VI. Ebenezer Lane, Vol. VII. Daniel Tilden, Vol. X. Rev. Harry O. Sheldon, Vol. XIII.

Postal Service—First mail route in the Fire Lands, June, '58, 46, Same subject, March, '59, 20. Carrying the mail in the wilderness, November, '59, 4. (For local postoffices, see the various TOWNSHIPS.)

Press of the Fire Lands, The, by C. P. Wickham, September, '61, 7.

PRODUCE—Flour and wheat in early days, September, '60, 18. Maple sugar, Indian manufacture of, IV, 60. Dangers to hay crops, VI, 20. Wheat and wool, fresh shipment of, VII, 27. Troubles of hemp raising, VII, 37. (See also AGRICULTURE, TOWNSHIPS, etc.)

R

RAILROADS—First projected in Ohio, VIII, 51. First beginnings of at Sandusky, IX, 77. Progress of in Ohio, X, 105. First time card of the Wheeling and Lake Erie, XIII, 2.

Rail splitting extraordinary, V, 44.

Records—Of Norwalk Probate Court, March, '60, 21. Of deaths in Wakeman township, *id.*, 26.

RELICS—One of the olden time, V, 119. A revolutionary, VI, 68. Some Indian, *id.*, 71. An ancient, VIII, 105. An interesting, IX, 113. (For exhibition and presentation of relics, see the various reports of MEETINGS.)

Religion—"Of the woods breed," X, 67.

Leligious Institutions, Local—See TOWNSHIPS.

Religious Interests of Reserve and Fire Lands, by Prof. Hartupee, VII, 16.

Remains, pre-historic, on the Vermillion, XII, 125.

REMINISCENCES, Personal—Of Hon. F. W. Fowler, November, '58, 25; March, '59, 1. Mrs. David Gibbs, May, '59, 21. Hon. J. R. Giddings, *id.*, 37. Mrs. Lucy A. Stevens, *id.*, 45. Joab Squire, November, '59, 15. Rev. A. H. Betts, *id.*, 30. Col. Ed. Wheeler, *id.*, 35. Enos Rose, *id.*, 45. Seth Jennings, March, '60, 16. Same, September, '61, 43. Mrs. Elizabeth Miles, V, 23. Daniel Sherman, *id.*, 98. Rev. John Seward, *id.*, 103. Jesse Taylor, VI, 18. John Garrison, *id.*, 33. Mrs. Polly Pierce, *id.*, 79. Francis Graham, VII, 50. Ebenezer Osborn, VIII, 26. B. Summers, *id.*, 42. Harriet Underhill, *id.*, 65. The Abbot family of Milan, *id.*, 66. Simeon Hoyt, *id.*, 75. Cahoon family, *id.*, 77. Johnson Wheeler, IX, 48. Rev. H. O. Sheldon, XII, 106. (See also MEMOIRS, TOWNSHIP histories and reports of the Society's MEETINGS.)

Return Jonathan, XI, 48.

Revolution—See WAR of the.

RICHMOND—Memoir of Township, V, 57.

RIDGEFIELD—Memoir of Township, March, '59, 25. Early settlement of, V, 26. Deaths of early settlers, V, 35. Monroeville, past and present, XIII, 77.
RIPLEY—Memoir of Township, IV, 60. Origin of name, V, 110.
ROADS—Condition in primitive days, November, '58, 20. First wagon road on Fire Lands, *id.*, 27. First in Norwalk, September, '60, 39. How begun in the wilderness, IV, 88. The first McAdam, XI, 42. (For local roads see memoirs of TOWNSHIPS.)
RUGGLES—Memoirs of Township, V, 48. First settlers of, XII, 34.
Russia Township, Lorain county, XII, 29.

S

SANDUSKY—Early settlement of, September, '60, 46. Indian massacre at Lower, September, '61, 41. First Indian and white settlers at, IV, 21. John Garrison's account of, VI, 40. Comparison of with Cleveland, IX, 76. Railroad beginnings at, *id.*, 77. Settlement and growth of, XIII, 23. A vanished settlement near, *id.*, 61. (See also "Evenings with the Pioneers." PORTLAND, DANBURY and PENINSULA.)
Sandusky City, Its Settlement and Growth, by A. W. Hendry, XIII, 23.
Sandusky *Clarion*—See Evenings with the Pioneers.
Sandusky County—First trial in, X, 60.
SCATTERED SHEAVES—By Ruth (Mrs. Worcester.) David Abbott, a narrative, November, '59, 21. Old Father Gurley, *id.*, 26. Early events in Milan, September, '60, 3. Major Underhill, a biography, *id.*, 37. Mrs. Kneeland Townsend, VIII, 61. Pioneer incidents, *id.*, '65.
Scenes in Winter, III, 93.
Schools—See EDUCATION.
Second Sight, Stories of, IV, 78.
Seneca John, Recollections of, March, '60, 47.
Sharp Shins, old time silver money, March, '59, 8.
SHERMAN—Memoir of Township, V, 83.
Ship Building—Beginning of at Perkins, VI, 15. At Huron, Erie county, XII, 23.
Simon Girty—Some account of, X, 55. (See also KENTON.)
SNAKES—Death from a rattle's bite, June '58, 45. Boy killed by a rattle, November '58, 23. Jump on a rattle's back, *id.*, 29. The baby and black snake, March '59, 35. Cure for rattle snake bites, VIII, 66. Snakes at Wakeman; IX, 42. Den of rattles near Milan, XII, 94.
Squatters—How they lived at Richmond, V, 63.
Stars and Stripes, origin of, VI, 96.
STATISTICS—Interesting political, V, 105. Census of Huron County in 1827, *id.*, 116. Wolf scalps taken in Huron County, VI, 26. Of things fifty years ago, VIII, 98. Of Longevity, XI, 50. Votes against license law, XII, 71. Sufferers by the fires in Connecticut, XIII, 10. Growth of the counties, *id.*, 20.
St. Paul's Episcopal Church, Norwalk, by C. E. Newman, XII, 45.
SURVEYS—History of on the Fire Lands, V, 93. Simon Hoyt's account of, VI, 27. Ludlow's, VIII, 13. Reminiscences of Hoyt's, *id.*, 75.

T

Taking it Cool, XI, 44.
Tax and Hunting Story, November '59, 18.
TEMPERANCE—Pioneer notions of, November '58, 24. Meeting in Sandusky, March '59, 24. In Bellevue twenty years ago, November '59, 13. Early movement in Norwich, March '60, 42. Organization in Margaretta, September '60, 22. Bonus on Kelley's Island for, IV, 35. Family society in Ripley, *id.*, 64. An Indian's logic on, V, 67. Wheat against Whisky, *id.*, 82. Some conversions to, IX, 37. A candid whisky dealer. *id.*, 92. Ancient pledge of, X, 76. Pioneer whisky, *id.*, 78. Huron County League of, XII, 69. Township vote against license law, *id.*, 71. First society in Ohio, *id.*, 76. Long life and, *id.*, 124.
Ten Minutes with the Pioneers, IX, 79.
Thanksgiving, History of, VIII, 96. Sapphic for, *id.*, 98. A Puritan dance on, X, 82.
Then and Now, and steps between, VIII, 42.
Toledo Congregational Church: VI, 95.
TOWNSEND—Memoir of Township, May '59, 47. The same, by Benjamin Benson, March '60, 4. Townsend West, settlement of, V, 23.

TOWNSHIPS—The following will be found in this Index in their alphabetical places, the memoirs relating to them supplying, as a rule, information about ORIGINAL NAMES, NATURAL APPEARANCE, ANCIENT REMAINS, INDIAN TRIBES or SETTLEMENTS, FIRST WHITE SETTLERS, FIRST BIRTHS, FIRST MARRIAGES, FIRST DEATHS, MILLS and MANUFACTORIES, MERCHANTS and TRADERS, ORGANIZATION, EDUCATIONAL, RELIGIOUS, and BENEVOLENT INSTITUTIONS, and other matters incidental to Township history and progress: Berlin, Birmingham, Bronson, Clarksfield, Danbury, (also Peninsula,) Fairfield, Fitchville, Florence, Greenfield, Greenwich, Groton, Hartland, Huron, Kelley's Island, Lyme, Margaretta, Milan, New Haven, New London, Norwalk, Norwich, Oxford, Perkins, Peru, Portland, (embraces Sandusky,) Richmond, Ridgefield, Ripley, Ruggles, Sandusky, Sherman, Townsend, Vermillion, Wakeman.

Trapper, Account of Morehead, the, V. 61.

TRAVELING—in Pioneer times. Lost in the wilderness, November '58, 26. A lady's first camp out, March '59, 43. On foot from Vermont to the Fire Lands, September '60, 42. How done in 1818, IV, 88. A wearisome road, V, 78. Three on a horse, *id.*, 88. Buffalo to the Fire Lands, VI, 18. Pioneer wedding trip, IX, 60. A woman's seventy mile ride, X, 70. Selling for passage money, *id.*, 84. Perils of crossing stream, XI, 44. Some long walks, *id.*, 45. New England to the Fire Lands, *id.*, 87. A journey on ice, *id.*, 98. How Charles Betts rode to church, XII, 59. Pleasant journey from Genesee, *id.*, 91. The first stage coach, *id.*, 100. Transportation accomplished, XIII, 19.

Trumbull County, Establishment of, June '58, 21.

U

Underground Railroad, The, at Clarksfield, XII, 98.

V

Vanished Settlement, History of a, by A. W. Hendry, XIII, 61.

VERMILLION—Memoir of Township, November '58, 38. Early times and incidents in, IV, 72.

Vermillion River, First Saw Mill on, November '59, 41. First bridge over the, September '61, 23. Findings of pre-historic remains on, XII, 125.

Vermillion, West, Reminscences of settlement, V, 97.

W

Wadsworth Letters, September '60, 36.

WAKEMAN—Memoir of Township, November '59, 38. Obituary records of, March '60, 26. Early recollections of. IX, 27. Census of before 1827, *id.*, 58. Reminiscenses of, XI, 85. Settlement of, XII, 33.

WAR OF THE REVOLUTION—How Connecticut was ravaged in, November '58, 19. Minute men of the, VII, 115. Last Pensioner of, VIII, 103. One more soldier of, IX, 111.

WAR of 1812—Operations in the Fire Lands, June '58, 23. Panic on Hull's surrender, *id.*, 44. Incidents of, March '59, 3. Erection of Fort Nonsense, *id.*, 5. Indians on the Peninsula. May '59, 37. A light footed scout, September '61, 19. Incidents of Hull's surrender, III, 83. Same subject, VIII, 61. Same, *id.*, 96. Trial of General Hull, X, 53. The last of Perry's men, *id.*, 112. Another hero of Perry's, XI, 41. Wayne's battlefield, *id.*, 50. Old pensioner of, *id.*, 51. How it was in the Fire Lands, XIII, 17. Camp Avery during, *id.*, 80.

WAR OF THE REBELLION—Record of Fire Lands Volunteers, VI, 80. Lessons of, by G. T. Stewart, VIII, 29. Reunion of Ohio regiments, XI. 47. Roster and battle record of the 123d Ohio, *id.*, 58. Muster roll and battles of the 8th Ohio, *id.*, 77. History of Company D, 34th Ohio, *id.*, 83. Items from the battle fields, *id.*, 87.

Warren, Old Landmarks Destroyed at, VIII, 102.

Wayne County, First Settlers of, X, 55.

Weather, Remarkably Cool for April, XI, 46.

WESTERN RESERVE—Grant and origin of, June '58, 20. Same subject, November '58, 9. Same subject, III, 31. Pioneer journalists of the, VI, 29. Religious interests of the, VII, 16. South boundary of the, VIII, 13. Historical sketch of, by Ex-Governor Bartley, X, 104. Original formation of, XIII, 8. Dairy products of, XIII, 94.

Wheatsborough, see Lyme.

Williams County, Early History of, VI, 73.
WOLVES—Beseiged in a log house by, November '58, 37, In Richland County, March '60, 6. How they howled at Norwalk, *id.*, 17. Taste of for veal; September '61, 22. On the Vermillion River, III, 81. In Ripley Township, IV, 63. A sheep hunted by, V, 41. Treed by a wolf, *id.*, 54. The war on the, VI, 25. "Let 'em howl, I'm not afraid," VIII, 84. Music of a pack, IX, 36. Chased by a pack, *id.*, 51. The last of Huron County, *id.*, 87. Taste for pork and beans, IX, 107. Trapped for sheep stealing, XI, 42.

CONTENTS OF VOL. XIII.

	Page.
Annual Meeting at Norwalk	1
Quarterly Meeting at Sandusky	3
Quarterly Meeting at Centerton	4
Centennial Historic Address, by P. N. Schuyler	6
Sandusky City, by A. W. Hendry	23
Early Settlers on the Peninsula, by C. Waterbury	30
The Aboriginal Fire Lands, by S. A. Wildman	37
Mental and Moral Characteristics of the Pioneers, by Rev. J. S. Broadwell	52
History of a Vanished Settlement, by A. W. Hendry	61
Benjamin Summers, by P. N. Schuyler	65
Poetry	68
Indian Works on the Huron	71
Aunt Hannah's Advice	73
John H. Niles, by C. Woodruff	74
The Golden Milestone	76
Monroeville, Past and Present, by H. M. Addison	77
Camp Avery in 1812	80
The Maple City, by P. J. Mahon	87
Church Chronicle of Hartland	92
Dairy Products of the Reserve	94
Obituary Record	97
Revolutionary Names	114
Miscellaneous—Tramps and Demagogues, Some Things that were Not 100 Years Ago, The Art of Longevity, etc	115
Rev. H. O. Sheldon	127
Notice to the Reader	128
Topical Index, Vol. I to XIII	130

THE

FIRE LANDS PIONEER:

INDEX.

ERRATA

In the Old Series errata lists appear in five of the nineteen issues. They are located on the following pages: 1862-96, 1863-98, 1865-123, 1866-120, and 1867-120. During index compilation errors in names were discovered and these are given below. No attempt was made to correct historical fact in the text even though subsequent research might show some information to be incorrect.

June 1858

Page 24 Daniel Abbott should be David Abbott
" 25 Wakefield should be Wakeman
" 31 Amerman should be Ammerman
" 43 Dankey should be Dencke
" 43 Flemman should be Flemmond

Nov. 1858

Page 13 Layfayette should be Lafayette
" 33 Fleming should be Flemmond
" 35 Potter should be Pattee
" 36 Millerman should be Milliman
" 36-7 Leland should be Laylin
" 39 William B. Summers should be Benjamin Summers
" 42 Dr. Chandler should be Daniel Chandler

Mar. 1859

Page 5 Colton should be Cotton
" 10-14 Bemer should be Beymer
" 11 Miss Palmer should be Meigs Palmer
" 14 Mevit Clark should be Merritt Clark
" 25 Ridgefield should be Sherman

May 1859

Page 16 Esther Iseft should be Esther Frost
" 16-7 Zibey should be Jabez
" 20 Amos Abbott should be Ezra Abbott
" 24 Seebo should be Lebo
" 28 Layland should be Laylin
" 47 Berdow should be Burdue

Nov. 1859

Page 4 Flemins should be Flemmond
" 13 Penderson should be Punderson
" 16 Hasley Mason should be Harley Mason
" 19 Bronson should be Barnum
" 35 Laughlin should be Laylin
" 39 Lawtha should be Lawther
" 39 Amial C. should be Amiel P.
" 39 Justice should be Justus
" 45 Layland should be Laylin

Mar. 1860

Page 13 Hickewilden should be Heckewelder
Page 13 Teisberger should be Zeisberger
" 13 Pilgarah should be Pilgeruh
" 14 Durkee should be Dencke
" 21 Hanes should be Haynes
" 25 Bebee should be Beebe
" 28 Randol should be Randall
" 29 Marvel should be Manvel

Sept. 1860

Page 4 Bassett should be Barrett
" 22 Baning should be Banning
" 38-9 Daniel Abbott should be David Abbott
" 44 Caskhuff should be Carkhuff
" 45 Saunders should be Sanders

1861

Page 23 Keid should be Reid
" 23 Percy Starr should be Perez
" 23 Bryant should be Briant

1862

Page 18 Hiram should be Ahiram
" 20 Danon should be Darrow
" 25 Halbite should be Hollister
" 40 Waitsell should probably be Waitstill
" 81 Bardue should be Burdue

1863

Page 6 Goodwell should be Bodwell
" 51 Osger should be Osyer
" 53 Barritt should be Barrett
" 66 Fleming should be Flemmond
" 70 Fleming should be Flemmond
" 92 Carpender should be Carpenter

1864

Page 7 Merrefield should be Merrifield
" 25 Millerman should be Milliman
" 39 Widow Sample should be Martha Sample
" 43 Udolpha should be Eudolphia
" 43 Hoy should be Hoyt
" 46-7 Saunders should be Sanders
" 55 Justice should be Justus
" 111 Hickley should be Hinckley

1865

Page 2 Boult should be Boalt
" 2 Saunders should be Sanders
" 13 Bebee should be Beebe

ERRATA continued

1865 continued

Page 53 Bekwith should be Beckwith
" 56 Hirman should be Hiram
" 57 Wingus should be Mingus
" 88 Hemmingway should be Hemenway
" 89 Neroman should be Newman

1866

Page 6 Hartsepee should be Hartupee
" 8 Barker should be Baker
" 95 Sheratt should be Sherarts
" 118 Giot should be Gist

1867

Page 73 Justes should be Justus

1868

Page 34 Barns should be Barnes
" 44 Covel should be Covell
" 84 Kies should be Keyes
" 98 Carkuff should be Carkhuff

1870

Page 18 Flemond should be Flemmond
" 18 Hartford should be Hartland
" 20 Barritt should be Barrett
" 20 Both Cory and Corry should be Corey
" 87 Fahy should be Fally

1874

Page 11 Hemmingway should be Hemenway
" 16 Cuddebank should be Cuddeback
" 60 Bebow should be Debow
" 60 Hemingway should be Hemenway
" 93 Hemmingway should be Hemenway

1876

Page 22 Henophon should be Xenophon
" 33 Augustus should be Augustin
" 34 Celotus should be Zelotus
" 36 Luas should be Lucas
" 58 Levert Brady should be Leverett Bradley
" 86 Barns should be Barnes
" 86 Terrillanim should be Terrill
" 92 Leland should be Laylin
" 95 Hiram May Cunningham should be Hiram Way Cunningham
" 95 Phoebe May should be Phoebe Way
" 127 Welsh should be Welch

1878

Page 19 Lynn should be Lyme
" 31 Fuller should be Tuller
" 66 Barr should be Burr

PORTRAITS

Platt Benedict	frontpiece,	June 1858
Elisha Whittlesey	"	1864
E.(Eleutheros) Cooke	"	1865
E.(Ebenezer) Lane	"	1867
Daniel Tilden	"	1870
H. O.(Henry Olcott) Sheldon	"	1878

ABBE
Shubael, 1862-35
ABBOT-SEE ABBOTT
_____ Bloomer (Mrs. Amos Abbott), May 1859-20
Elder, 1862-29
Family, 1874-13
Mr., 1865-6; 1867-66; 1868-60
Mrs., 1864-34; 1868-60
Squire, 1878-18
A. D. (Rev.), 1874-92
Aaron D., 1864-42
Benjamin N., Mar. 1860-15
Benjamin W., Nov. 1859-21, 22; 1867-69
Charles, Mar. 1860-30
Daniel, 1878-15
David, June 1858-23, 24, 25; Nov. 1858-27, 28, 29, 44; Mar. 1859-1, 37, 45, 46; May 1859-17, 19, 20, 31, 45, 47, 48; Nov. 1859-21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26; Mar. 1860-21, 23, 24, 25; Sept. 1860-4, 7, 38, 39; 1862-53; 1863-55; 1864-22; 1865-25, 49; 1866-52; 1867-64, 66, 67, 68, 69, 70; 1868-13; 1870-85, 86; 1874-44; 1876-21, 124; 1878-17, 18
David Jr., Nov. 1859-25
Emily F., 1874-92
Ezra, May 1859-20; 1864-85; 1865-49, 52
H., Mar. 1860-30
James, Mar. 1860-28, 29
James R., 1876-28
Lucien, 1876-78
Lucy (Mrs. Guy Stevens), Mar. 1859-1; Nov. 1859-25; 1867-66, 67, 68; 1876-124
Mary Brown (Mrs. David Abbott), Nov. 1859-22
Mary O. (Mrs. F. D. Parish); Nov. 1859-23, 25; 1867-69
Phebe Minerva Cherry (Mrs. Aaron D. Abbott), 1864-42
Sally (Mrs. John B. Demund), Mar. 1859-1; Nov. 1859-25; 1867-90
Stephen, 1865-6
Theodotia (Mrs. Lyman Farewell), Mar. 1860-25
ABEL
Judge, May 1859-30
Eliza Wells (Mrs. Thomas B. Abel); Nov. 1858-42
Thomas B., Nov. 1858-42
ACKER
Lt., 1874-70, 72
Harry, 1876-84
Sarah (Mrs. A. F. Bly), 1867-87
ACKERMAN
Daniel, 1866-87
Julia (Mrs.), Mar. 1860-31
Wm. W., 1876-86
ACKERS-SEE AKERS
ACKERS
Sarah, 1874-96
ACKINS
_____, Sept. 1860-22
ADAM-ADAMS
_____, 1863-3; 1864-118
_____ (Mrs. L. Galpin), 1867-90
_____ (Mrs. ____ Moore), 1868-59
ADAM-ADAMS continued
_____ (Mrs. M. Stuart), 1867-90
Miss, 1862-11
Mr., May 1859-46; Sept. 1860-29; 1876-108
Aaron, 1868-59
Andrew, 1863-95
Annis (Mrs. Henry Adams), June 1858-37
Benoni, Nov. 1859-4; 1878-2, 97
Bildad, June 1858-41; Nov. 1858-16, 17; Mar. 1859-33, 35; Sept. 1860-20; 1862-11
C. H. (Mrs.), 1868-11
Charles Francis, 1865-105
Charlotte (Mrs Ebenezer Merry), 1866-58; 1868-59,60
Eleanor, Sept. 1860-5; 1868-70
Ezra S., 1876-100
George Q. (Judge), 1865-84; 1866-8
H., 1862-8; 1865-79, 99; 1870-12
H. R., 1865-94; 1874-27, 56; 1876-14
H. R. (Mrs.), 1874-27, 56; 1876-14
Henry, June 1858-30, 37, 39, 40, 41; Nov. 1858-2; Mar. 1860-22; 1862-8; 1863-4; 1864-4; 1865-79 84; 1867-4; 1874-2, 12, 15, 17, 18, 20, 30, 31, 37; 1876-10, 16, 34; 1878-2
Henry (Rev.), 1874-15
J. F., Nov. 1859-8, 9, 10; 1863-4, 1864-4; 1868-70, 1876-15, 16
Joel, Mar. 1860-28
John, Nov. 1859-3; 1861-41; 1862-43,49; 1870-112
John F., 1865-6, 79, 84; 1876-15, 16
John Quincy, 1866-38
L. G., Mar. 1860-2
Lucy (Mrs. James B. Pier), 1868-61
Lurena Baldwin (Mrs. Philo Adams), 1864-122
Lysander, 1868-59
Moses, Mar. 1860-28
Newell, June 1858-37, 39
P., 1868-81
Permelia (Mrs. John Cherry), 1864-42
Philo (Deacon), Nov. 1859-43; Mar. 1860-14, 15; Sept. 1860-6; 1861-6; 1863-70, 71; 1864-122; 1865-4, 84, 120; 1868-70, 80; 1878-21
S. Louisa, 1874-84
Sally (Mrs. Newell Adams), June 1858-37
Sarah (Mrs. Aaron Adams), 1868-59
Sebastian, 1868-81
Seth, 1864-117
Seth A., Sept. 1860-5, 6; 1868-70; 1878-21
Silas, 1864-38, 39, 40, 41, 42, 43
Stark, 1874-2, 12, 18, 20, 30, 37; 1876-10, 13, 16; 1878-1
Will M., Sept. 1860-6
William, Sept. 1860-5, 6; 1868-70; 1874-84
William (Rev.), 1868-71
William H., 1864-117
ADDISON
Miss, 1867-80
H. M., 1868-55; 1878-77
ADKINS
Mr., 1867-91
AGARD
A. H. (Dr.), 1861-15; 1867-74; 1868-10; 1870-12, 63; 1874-2, 12, 20, 30, 37; 1876-10, 125
AIKEN
Rev. Dr., 1863-46

AIKENS
Holcy, 1865-12
AIKWRIGHT
_____, 1864-54
AKENS,
John, 1866-83
AKERS
Sarah (Mrs. Clement Beardsley), Nov. 1858-40; 1874-96
AKINS
Caroline (Mrs. Joseph Eddy), 1866-83
John, 1866-83
ALBIE
Joseph, Mar. 1860-23
ALBION
James, 1876-84, 86
ALBY
Joseph, 1863-90
ALDEN
John, Mar. 1860-19
ALEXANDER
J. W., 1876-84, 85
John, 1870-54
W. S. (Rev.), 1866-103
ALGOOD
B. (Mrs.), Mar. 1860-29
ALLEN
_____ (Mrs. Hamilton Colton) 1867-90
_____ (Mrs. Charles P. Judson) 1863-80
Dr., 1878-83
Lt., May 1859-43,44
Mrs., 1868-12; 1878-26
Benjamin (Lt), 1878-80, 81, 82, 83, 84, 85, 86
Chester, 1878-84, 85
Curtis, 1868-44
Daniel, 1878-86
Ethan, Sept. 1860-37
Frederick, 1876-83
George H., 1876-81
Hannah (Mrs. Jonah Bartow Jr.), Nov. 1858-41
Ira, Sept. 1860-37
Isaac, 1863-68; 1865-49
J. W. (Hon.), 1863-33
John, 1863-78; 1870-77; 1876-83
John W., 1870-50
Justin, Mar. 1860-22; 1868-43
Justus, 1865-12; 1867-73; 1868-43, 44
L. D., 1866-2
L. F., Sept. 1860-16, 28
Lorenzo D., 1874-37
Mort., 1865-64
Permelia (Mrs.), 1874-111
Peter (Dr), 1865-123
Phillip, Mar. 1860-32
Polly (Mrs. Amos Hine), 1862-18
Richard (Capt.), 1876-78, 80
Sally (Mrs. Sanburn), Mar. 1860-24
Sally Austin (Mrs. John Allen), 1863-78
Samuel, 1864-65
Sergeant, 1870-72
Titus, 1867-73
W. C., 1867-9; 1868-1, 4, 9, 13; 1870-2, 4, 6, 7, 8, 9, 12, 50; 1874-11, 19, 35, 38; 1878-2

ALLEN continued
William, 1874-60
William C., 1865-43, 84; 1874-23
ALLERTON
Bartholomew, Mar. 1860-19
Isaac, Mar. 1860-19; 1868-115
John, Mar. 1860-20
Mary (Mrs. Isaac Allerton), Mar. 1860-19; 1868-115
Mary (Mrs. Thomas Cushman), Mar. 1860-19
Remember, Mar. 1860-19
Sarah (Mrs. Moses Meverick), Mar. 1860-19
ALLGOOD
Orra Miles (Mrs. William Allgood), 1864-25
William (Rev. Elder), 1863-71; 1864-25
ALLING
Eliza L., 1874-84
Pruden, 1865-84; 1874-84
William G., 1874-59
ALLPORT
Eliza (Mrs. James P. Brooks), 1863-82
ALSPAUGH
George, 1876-83
ALUM
James, 1876-84
ALVERSON
H. B., 1876-84
ALVORD
Aaron, 1876-81
Lydia, 1876-3
AMADELL
James, 1874-59
AMHERST,
Gen., Mar. 1860-11
AMMERMAN
Anna, 1864-113; 1865-53
Eleanor, Mar. 1859-42
James, 1862-12
Jane, Mar. 1859-42
Jane (Mrs. Seth Parker), 1870-42
John, Mar. 1859-42
Jno., June 1858-31
Lucy, Mar. 1859-42
Simon, Mar. 1859-38, 39, 42; 1864-113; 1865-53; 1870-42; 1876-110
Tina, Mar. 1859-42
AMORY
Thomas C., 1870-109, 112
AMSDELL
Philander, 1867-74
AMSDEN
Mr., 1866-35
T. G., 1866-94
ANDERSON
Dr., 1866-75; 1878-34
Mr., 1870-18
A. (Mrs.), 1874-28
A. M., 1861-23
Andrew, 1864-64
Eleanor (Mrs. George Anderson), Mar. 1859-21
Elizabeth, 1864-64
George (Dr.), Mar. 1859-20, 21; 1867-116, 117, 118; 1878-25, 34
George J., Mar. 1859-21; 1865-84; 1867-117; 1870-12; 1878-34
Henry, 1863-54, 55; 1876-4; 1878-97

ANDERSON continued
John, Mar. 1860-25; 1862-16
Joseph, 1864-64
Laura (Mrs. John Hooker), 1863-55
Lydia Kellogg (Mrs. John Anderson), Mar. 1860-25; 1862-16
Nancy, 1862-21
T. J., 1870-50
Wesley, 1866-56
Westley J., 1864-64
ANDRE
Major, 1864-56
ANDRESS
Emma, Mar. 1860-30
H., Mar. 1860-30
ANDREW
Esther, 1876-99
ANDREWS
Col., June 1858-24
Judge, 1861-3
Mr., 1867-57
Charles, 1874-74
Ebenezer, Mar. 1860-15, 25; 1864-112 1865-4, 84; 1867-27; 1868-81; 1876-36, 40, 42
Esther, 1876-99
I. W., 1866-92
James T., 1870-102
Johial, Nov. 1859-46
Juliet (Mrs. Leicester Walker), 1876-120
Linas, Mar. 1860-27
Lorin, 1867-58
Philip, 1861-24
R. H. (Mrs.), 1865-4, 84
Sophia Sherarts (Mrs. William B. Andrews), 1863-79
T. B., 1870-51
William B., 1861-2; 1863-79; 1866-94
ANDRUS
William, Mar. 1860-15, 21, 22; Sept. 1860-11, 15
ANGEL
Amy, 1876-124
ANGELL
Helen J., 1876-65
ANTHONY
Gen., 1870-90
APPLESEED
Johnny, Mar. 1859-47; Nov. 1859-37; 1864-61, 62, 99; 1870-114; 1874-89; 1876-33
ARCHER
Robert (Dr.), 1864-46
ARMITAGE
Joseph, 1862-2, 3
ARMSTRONG
Col., 1864-118
Betsey (Mrs. W. H. Armstrong), 1868-7
J. B. (Col.), 1866-110
John, 1862-51
M. K., 1868-5
Nelson, 1874-59
S. L., 1866-94
Thomas (Gov.), 1868-3
W. H., 1868-7
ARNOLD
_____, Nov. 1858-5
ARNOLD continued
A. F., 1864-6; 1865-84
Alfred, 1868-107
Ann Eliza (Miss), Mar. 1860-27
Benedict, 1868-94
Elias, 1874-6
Isaac N., 1865-110
James, Mar. 1860-10; 1867-6, 8, 74, 82; 1874-20, 30, 34, 35, 37, 119; 1876- 1, 2, 3, 10, 16; 1878-1, 2
ARTHUR
Daniel, 1870-84
Robert, 1867-3
ARTMAN
Michael, 1863-61
ASHENHURST
Betsey Sherarts (Mrs. John T. Ashenhurst), 1863-81
John T., 1863-81
ASHLEY
_____ Sturtevant (Mrs. Baxter Ashley), 1867-90
B. (Deacon), Sept. 1860-7; 1864-51; 1868-72
Baxter, 1864-51; 1867-90
Denis, Nov. 1858-14; Mar. 1859-33
Edward, 1864-51
Harriet, 1864-51
Harriet (Mrs. Martin Smith) 1868-80
Henry, 1864-51
James, June 1858-37, 39
L. A., 1874-42
Marcia Sturdevant (Mrs. B. Ashley), 1864-51
Martha, 1864-51
S. B., 1867-74
Sally (Mrs.), 1864-3
Saloma (Mrs. William McKelvy), Mar. 1860-24
Sarah, 1864-51
Susan, 1864-51
Willie, 1864-51
ASHTON
Samuel (Rev.), 1876-126
ASTOR
John Jacob, 1866-80; 1870-107
ATHERN
Ira (Mrs.), 1866-88
ATHERTON
Jonathan (Mrs.), 1867-4
Miner, Mar. 1860-43
Samuel, June 1858-30, 39; 1863-84
ATKINS
Galen, Mar. 1859-21; 1878-26
Guy J., Mar. 1860-22
Martha (Mrs. Nelson Taylor), 1870-45
Quintius F., 1866-80
ATKINSON
Mrs., 1866-5
ATWATER
C. W., 1865-84
Caleb, 1868-117
Jeremiah, 1865-84
Mary J., 1865-84
ATWOOD
_____ Sherley (Mrs. Atwood), 1870-68
AUSTIN
_____, 1863-87
_____, (Mrs. Philo Comstock), 1[illegible]
Capt., Nov. 1858-35; 1863-82, 86; [illegible]5-56; 1870-71

AUSTIN continued
Judge, Nov. 1859-22; 1868-60; 1874-58
Mr., Nov. 1858-35
Adaline Cherry (Mrs. Homer Austin); 1864-43
Betsy (Mrs. Job C. Smith), Mar. 1860-23; 1863-78
Charles, 1863-78
Charlotte, 1863-78, 81, 87
David, 1861-1
E. L., 1866-94
Elizabeth, 1863-78
George, (Mrs. Charlotte _____ Sturges), 1863-78, 81
Homer, 1864-43
Jedediah, 1863-78
John, Nov. 1858-41; Mar. 1860-21; 1863-78; 1876-86
Lucius M., 1874-57
Lyman, 1865-84
Nancy (Mrs. Dickson), 1863-78
Philander, 1874-101
Polly, (Mrs. J. Conklin); 1863-78
Sally (Mrs. John Allen), 1863-78
Seymour, 1878-81
Susannah Mrs., 1868-5, 6, 100
William (Capt.), Nov. 1858-39, 41; 1863-73, 77, 78, 79, 81; 1866-69
AUVICE
Betsy (Mrs. Dr. Henry Niles), 1865-122
AVERY
Mr., Sept. 1860-40
C., 1870-108
Luther, 1865-84; 1876-10, 16; 1878-1
AXTELL
Daniel, 1876-28
AXTON
Mrs. 1861-2
AYERS
Daniel, 1865-82
Enos, Nov. 1859-46
J. H., 1876-84
AYRES
Mr., 1864-87

BABBITT
Charles, 1876-84, 86
BABCOCK
Elisha, 1865-2
Orrin M., 1876-123
Smith, 1865-85
BACHE
Alexander Dallas, 1870-115
BACHELLER
George S. (Hon.), 1867-104
BACHY
Charles, 1861-15
BACKUS
_____ Reed, 1865-116
A., 1876-56
A. L., 1865-116
Matthew, 1870-63
BACON
Col., 1870-90
Esquire, 1865-94
Mrs., 1874-25
D. E., 1863-4; 1866-9
BACON continued
David (Rev.), 1868-12
Leonard, 1868-12
Ralph, Nov. 1859-9
William, June 1858-30; Nov. 1858-2
BADGER
Elder, Nov. 1858-37, 39; Mar. 1859-33
J. F., 1865-85
Joseph (Rev.), Sept. 1860-5, 8; 1865-70; 1867-5
Milton (Rev.), 1868-70
BAER
John, 1876-4
BAILEY-BAILIE-BAILY
Sergeant, 1878-84, 85
A. W., Mar. 1859-43, 44, 45
Benjamin, Mar. 1860-8, 9, 10; 1864-23, 25
Charles, 1864-7; 1876-86
Hiram, Mar. 1860-10
Omar Jr., 1876-127
Richard, 1863-54; 1870-20, 23
William, 1862-2
BAIR
Jahiel, 1876-83
BAKER
_____ (Mrs. George Sheffield), Nov. 1859-9
Dr., 1863-57; 1864-54; 1868-49
Judge, May 1859-20
Abijah (Capt.), 1862-82
Alfred, 1865-24
Ann Crane (Mrs. G. G. Baker), Nov. 1858-42
Anna Hildreth (Mrs. Robert Baker), 1865-24
B. E. (Rev.), 1874-7
Betsey _____ Foote (Mrs. Spencer Baker), 1864-39
C., May 1859-20
Caroline, 1865-24
Cemantha, 1864-45
Charles, 1878-98
Charles H., 1874-90
D. A., 1862-8; 1865-7; 1867-8; 1874-37; 1876-7
D. G., 1868-6; 1870-8
Daniel, 1874-30
Daniel A., Nov. 1858-1, 3; 1865-84
Edward, 1868-81
Eliza (Mrs. Timothy Baker), 1864-122
Eliza (Mrs. D. G. Barker), 1866-7
Elizabeth (Mrs. Marshall Baker), 1866-8
Emanuel, 1876-84
G. G. (Dr.), Sept. 1861-18; 1868-8
George, 1864-40; 1865-24; 1874-90; 1878-98
George G. (Dr.), Nov. 1858-42; Nov. 1859-16; 1862-5, 27; 1865-85; 1868-81
Giles, 1866-3
H. F., 1874-26, 28; 1876-14
H. T., 1876-127
Hannah (Mrs. Phillip Moffitt), 1864-39
Harriett Ann, 1865-24
Hiram, Nov. 1859-12, 13; 1867-112; 1868-85; 1874-27, 60
Hubbard, Nov. 1859-3
J., Nov. 1859-16
J. W., Sept. 1861-47; 1863-9; 1870-7
James W., 1874-90
Jeremiah, 1868-85
John, Nov. 1859-8, 9, 10, 12; 1874-27
John O., 1865-24

BAKER continued
Julius, Nov. 1858-16
Leah, 1864-45
Leah Davis (Mrs. William Baker), 1864-41
Levi (Col.), 1866-92
Lewis, 1864-40
Loro, 1864-40
Lucinda, 1864-40
Lurintha, 1864-40
Lydia, 1864-40
Margaret W., 1865-84
Marshall, 1866-8
Nelson, 1874-60
Ogden, 1865-24
Olive, 1865-24
Robert, 1865-23, 24, 25
Sampson, 1864-38, 46
Spencer, 1864-3, 39, 40
Theodore, 1865-84; 1878-98
Timothy (Judge), Mar. 1859-37, 39; Mar. 1860-15; Sept. 1860-39, 40, 44; 1864-122; 1865-84; 1874-90; 1878-98
Timothy Jr., 1876-70
Timothy Sr., 1874-90
W. C., Sept. 1860-20, 21
W. E. (Rev.), 1874-6
William, 1864-41, 45; 1874-90; 1878-98
William C., 1865-24
BALCOM
B. B. (Rev.), 1876-53
BALDWIN
_____, 1867-73; 1878-94
Abecham D., Nov. 1858-14
C. C., 1878-71
Charles C., 1870-50
Daniel T., 1861-23; 1874-44
E., 1864-106
Henry J., 1876-75
I. Jr., 1870-77
Lurena (Mrs. Philo Adams), 1864-122
M., 1876-31
Philemon, 1866-69
Samuel S., 1866-69-70-72
Smith D., 1866-35
Sophia Reid (Mrs. Uriah Hawley), 1861-23
BALL
Col., 1867-72
Rev. Mr., 1876-4
Ann, Nov. 1858-43
Eli, Nov. 1858-43
Eliza, Nov. 1858-43
Emily, Nov. 1858-43
Flamen, 1876-122
Harriet, Nov. 1858-43
Henry, 1862-88
Horace, Nov. 1858-42
Jesse, Nov. 1858-41, 42; 1863-73, 87
Jesse Jr., Nov. 1858-43
Joseph, Mar. 1860-37
Julia, Nov. 1858-43
Julia A., 1866-6
Orrissa, Nov. 1858-42
Polly Meadows (Mrs. Henry Ball), 1862-88
Sally (Mrs. Charles Washburn), Nov. 1858-42, 43
BALL continued
Susan, Nov. 1858-42
Susannah (Mrs. Jesse Ball), 1863-87
BALLARD
Horace, 1866-35
Luke, 1866-35
Winthrop, 1866-35
BALLENTINE
Henry (Rev.), 1868-69
BALLOU
Oscar, 1874-50
BALSLEY
A. H., 1861-15
BANCROFT
Mr., Mar. 1859-19; 1867-11; 1868-45
Hannah Watkins (Mrs. Bancroft), Mar. 1859-19; 1868-45
Oliver J., 1864-66
BANGS
James (Capt.), May 1859-21
BANKS
J., 1864-71
Joshua, 1864-74
T., 1867-4
BANNING
_____(Mrs. C. Bronson), May 1859-22
A. (Dr.), 1867-91
Anthony, Sept. 1860-22
BARBER
Col., 1866-90
Miss (Mrs. Wanton Corey), 1870-22
Mr., 1864-23, 25; 1868-17, 50, 51
Mrs., 1864-24
Rev. Elder, 1874-10, 93; 1876-63, 94
Abel, 1868-80
Abijah, 1860-8, 9; 1868-80
Amaziah, 1860-6, 8, 10
Anna Gates (Mrs. John Barber), 1868-80
Ansel, 1868-80; 1870-21
Augustus, Mar. 1860-6, 8
Eldad (Rev.), Nov. 1859-19; Sept. 1860-6; 1861-1, 46; 1862-29; 1863-8; 1864-91; 1868-69; 1870-47; 1874-10, 93; 1876-94
Henry, Nov. 1858-24
Hezekiah, Mar. 1860-6, 8, 9, 10; 1864-53; 1868-80
John, 1868-80
Mercy Barber (Mrs. Ansel Barber), 1868-80
Olive, Mar. 1860-11
Palome Barber (Mrs. Abel Barber), 1868-80
Phebe Corey (Mrs. Ansel Barber), 1870-21
Phineas (Rev.), 1878-2
S., Mar. 1860-27
BARCLAY
Commodore, 1870-71
BARD
Electa E., 1865-85
BARDSHAR
William, Sept. 1860-20; 1864-7
BARE
J., 1863-62
BARHITE
William, 1874-59
BARKDALL
_____, 1878-93
BARKDULL
_____, 1876-98
Thomas, 1876-109

BARKER
A. E., 1876-5
Abram, 1876-61
Adison, 1874-59
Alezina (Mrs. D. W. Briggs), 1864-71, 76; 1876-34
Alzina, Nov. 1858-25
Benjamin, 1864-39
D. C., 1874-20
D. G. (Gen.), June 1858-30; Nov. 1858-2; 1863-4; 1864-53, 71, 76; 1865-84; 1866-8, 94; 1874-12, 20, 30, 34, 37; 1876-4, 10, 16, 34; 1878-1
D. J., 1864-55
Daniel, 1864-76
Daniel G., 1864-53, 70; 1876-34
Deborah (Mrs. Abraham Mead), 1868-111
E. E., 1876-34
E. F., 1876-34
Eliza Baker (Mrs. D. G. Barker), 1866-7
Ephraim, 1864-77
Ephraim F., 1864-70, 71, 74, 76
F. D., 1863-6
G. D. (Gen.), 1876-4
G. G. (Mrs.), 1861-3
James, 1868-84
John B., 1870-32; 1876-5, 6
M., Mar. 1860-10
Nancy, 1868-85
Newberry, 1876-35
Polly, 1870-32
Roxa, Sept. 1860-1
Sally, (Mrs. J. C. Hubbell), 1864-31
Thomas C., 1864-117
Z. W., 1878-25
Zenas W., 1865-84; 1876-82; 1878-25
BARLOW
Joel. 1864-118
BARNARD
C., Nov. 1859-8
Calvin, 1878-3
Henry C., 1874-60
Luther, 1874-60, 75
BARNES
Lt., 1876-79
_____ Hartwell (Mrs. Hiram Barnes), Sept. 1860-15
_____ Pierce (Mrs. Samuel R. Barns), 1868-34
Burton, Mar. 1860-29
Charles, 1870-51
Elias, 1876-34
Ezekiel, 1865-48
F., 1861-1
George, 1874-6
George A., 1878-112
Hannah (Mrs. Job Stone), 1867-106
Hiram, Sept. 1860-15, 16; 1865-85
Ira, Sept. 1860-16
J., 1864-55
James, 1870-32
John, Nov. 1858-1; June 1858-30; 1868-84
Justus, 1864-51, 55; 1876-34
L. (Mrs.), 1870-10; 1874-5
Lewis, 1868-84
Mary, 1874-16, 93
Polly (Mrs.), 1868-85; 1874-5
BARNES continued
Russell, 1868-38, 41, 58
Sally (Mrs. Lewis Barnes), 1868-84
Samuel, 1876-86
Samuel R., Mar. 1860-26; 1868-34
Sedgewick, 1864-51
Sheldon, Nov. 1859-41; 1868-58; 1874-5
William, 1868-58
BARNETT
Father, 1870-90
Jacob, 1870-63
James, 1870-50
BARNEY
Allen (Dr.), 1864-35
Constant, June 1858-40; 1867-114
George, 1865-84
Henry, Mar. 1859-9; Nov. 1859-46; 1865-48
John, Mar. 1859-9, 10; Nov. 1859-46; 1865-50
Mary, 1867-86
Sophia (Mrs. Luther Coe), Nov. 1858-46; Mar. 1859-10; Nov. 1859-46; Mar. 1860-24
BARNHART
Malvern, 1874-59
BARNS
Samuel, 1876-86
BARNUM
_____ (Mrs. Rufus Judson), 1863-80
_____, 1878-102
Esquire, Mar. 1859-37; 1863-76; 1878-119
Major, Nov. 1858-20; May 1859-19, 30; 1867-88
Mr., Mar. 1860-2; 1870-20
Mrs., 1861-25
Betsey (Mrs.), 1865-85
Betsey Nickerson (Mrs. Ebenezer M. Barnum), 1868-96
Charles, Mar. 1859-1
E. M., June 1858-30, 45; Nov. 1858-2, 4; May 1859-23, 24; Sept. 1860-1; 1863-3, 4, 6, 7; 1865-84; 1868-13
E. S., 1862-15, 1863-7, 8; 1864-91, 92
E. W., May 1859-23
Ebenezer M., Nov. 1858-22, 23, 24; 1868-13, 96
Eli, June 1858-45; May 1859-24, 47; Nov. 1859-16, 22; 1863-52; 1868-6, 96; 1870-51, 52
Eli S., Mar. 1859-13; Nov. 1859-20, 21; 1861-21, 22, 25; 1864-91; 1865-25
Elias, Nov. 1859-15, 16
J. W., Sept. 1860-20
Levi, Nov. 1858-19; May 1859-23; 1868-96
Mary, Nov. 1859-40
Mary Root (Mrs. Eli S. Barnum), 1864-91
Noah, 1865-27
Rachel, Nov. 1859-19
Rachel (Mrs. Joseph Brooks), 1864-91
William, 1876-125
BARR
Abigail (Mrs. David Butler) 1862-26
Horatio, 1876-16, 17; 1878-1, 2, 3
Julia, 1878-66
Thomas (Rev.), 1865-69, 70
BARRERE
N., 1864-106
BARRET-BARRETT-BARRITT
_____, May 1859-45; 1876-35
Major, 1878-34
Mr., Sept. 1860-22

BARRET-BARRETT-BARRITT continued
Betsey Smith (Mrs. Zelotus Barrett), 1870-20
Celotus, 1876-24
David (Capt)., Nov. 1858-27, 30; Mar. 1859-1, 2, 3, 6, 7; Nov. 1859-23; Sept. 1860-4; 1866-69
Eliada, 1865-85
Eliza (Mrs. Frederick W. Fowler), Mar. 1860-23
L., 1864-72, 73
Newton (Rev.), 1868-71
Oliver, May 1859-45; Mar. 1860-22; Sept. 1860-22; 1867-91, 92
Philander, 1878-99
Smith, 1878-99
Zelotus, 1863-53; 1870-20; 1876-34; 1878-99
BARRY
Cordelia Benschoter (Mrs. Barry); 1862-19
BARSTOW
Goody, 1870-116
BARTHOLOMEW
Lt., May 1859-39
A. J., 1867-74
Albert, 1876-86
William (Lt.), 1878-84
BARTLETT
G. J., 1876-6
James, 1864-72; 1876-4
Joseph, 1876-84
BARTLEY
Mordecai, 1864-106; 1867-85; 1870-104, 113
BARTON
S. (Mrs.), 1876-4, 5
Susan, 1876-5
BARTOW
_____(Mrs. Leonard Norton), Nov. 1858-41
Mr., 1865-94
Mrs., 1867-90
Alvin T., 1866-94
Hannah Allen (Mrs. Jonah Bartow Jr.), Nov. 1858-41
John, Nov. 1858-41, 1863-73
Jonah, 1863-73
Jonah Jr., Nov. 1858-41, 1863-74
Jonah Sr., Nov. 1858-41, 1863-73
BARTRUM
Job, Sept. 1860-23
BASCOM
Alphord, 1874-60
Dennison, 1865-85
Lydia, 1865-85; 1867-4
BASH
Philip, 1864-65
BASSETT
Capt., 1864-43
A.H. (Rev.), 1870-50, 89
Electa (Mrs.), 1874-111
Ira, Nov. 1859-10
Polly Hand (Mrs. Ira Bassett), Nov. 1859-10
BATE
John, 1870-25
BATELLE
Ebenezer, 1874-46
BATEMAN
Samuel T., 1865-27
BATES
A., 1864-55
Archibald, 1870-22, 24, 25
Betsey Bowman (Mrs. Truman Bates), 1870-24
Cynthia (Mrs. Ezra D. Smith), 1864-52
D. S. (Judge), 1870-94
Henry, 1863-57; 1870-20, 25
Huldah (Mrs. Joseph S. Merrifield), 1864-112; 1870-20, 24, 25, 26
J., 1864-55
John, 1863-56; 1870-25
Joseph, 1866-86
Roxey Sampson (Mrs. Archibald Bates), 1870-22, 25
Truman, 1864-52, 54, 55; 1870-20, 22, 24; 1876-34
Walter, 1876-122
William M., 1866-87
BAUM
Ann Wallace (Mrs. Martin Baum), 1865-121
Eleanor (Mrs. Hartshorne), 1865-122
Martin, 1865-121; 1870-108
Mary P. (Mrs. Ewing), 1865-122
BAUSMAN
John P. (Rev.), 1876-49, 55
BAXTER
Elizabeth (Mrs. John Garrison), 1865-42
Henry, 1864-109; 1868-46
Richard, 1868-11
BAYLOR
Col., 1862-11
BEACH
Mr., 1864-50
Columbus, 1864-50
Cordelia M. (Mrs. Isaac Cowell) 1864-49, 50
Cynthia, 1864-50
Cynthia (Mrs. D. Fox), 1864-50
Cyrus, 1864-50, 51
Cyrus S., 1864-49, 50
Daniel, 1864-49, 50, 52, 53, 54, 55, 79 1876-34; 1878-99, 113
Daniel B., 1864-49, 50
Diora, 1864-50, 53
Fanny, 1878-99
Fanny Curtis, 1864-50, 1878-99
Frances _____Peck (Mrs. Daniel Beach), 1864-50
George, 1864-50
Harriet L. (Mrs. Rollin Curtiss), 1864-49, 50
Irena, 1864-50
John, 1867-28; 1876-63
John (Rev.), May 1859-22; 1861-46; 1866-34, 35; 1867-41
Kimball, 1878-99
Kimball (Mrs.), 1878-99
Lorinda, 1864-55
Lorinda Sacket (Mrs. Daniel Beach), 1864-49
Marion, 1864-50
Mary, 1864-50
Mary Alice, 1864-50, 53
Miles, 1864-50
Moses S., Mar. 1859-16
Norah C., 1864-50
Norah Gates (Mrs. Cyrus S. Beach), 1864-50
Phebe Ann Washburn (Mrs. Wakeman J. Beach), 1864-50, 53
Reuben K., 1864-49, 50

BEACH continued
W. J., 1864-49, 54
W. W., 1870-50
Wakeman, 1876-34
Wakeman J., 1864-50, 53; 1876-34
Wanda, 1864-50, 53
William, 1864-50
BEALE
Mary (Mrs. John Whittlesey), 1864-10
BEALL
Robert R. (Gen.), Mar. 1860-33; 1866-60
BEALS
C. W., Sept. 1860-2
Charles W., 1865-84
BEAM
Avis, 1864-45
BEARD
Charles B., 1876-127
Clement, 1861-3
Jane M., 1876-127
Jedediah, (Col.), 1861, 42
BEARDSLEE-BEARDSLEY
Mr., 1870-30
Ann (Mrs. Capt. Elliot), Nov. 1858-40
C. C., Nov. 1858-4
Clement, Nov. 1858-40, 41; 1863-75; 1865-84; 1868-7, 9; 1870-8. 9; 1874-10, 93, 96
F., 1870-51
Harriet (Mrs. Blasdel), Nov. 1858-40
Irene (Mrs. David L. Washburn), Nov. 1858-40, 43
John (Deacon), Nov. 1858-39, 40, 41; Nov. 1859-31, 32; Sept. 1861-19, 21, 22; 1863-72, 73, 75
Joseph Smith, Nov. 1858-40
Leah Corkins (Mrs. John Beardsley), Nov. 1858-40
Maria, Nov. 1858-40
Philo, Nov. 1858-40; 1863-75
Sarah, 1870-32
Sarah Akers (Mrs. Clement Beardsley), Nov. 1858-40
Seth, Nov. 1858-40
Smith, 1861-19; 1863-75
Sophia (Mrs. Allen Eddy), Nov. 1858-40
Walter, 1863-39
BEATTY
_____ (Mrs. L. B. Gurley), Nov. 1859-26
_____ (Mrs. Morden), 1865-13
Mr., Nov. 1859-9, 12; 1874-54
Ann (Mrs. James Johnson), 1865-14
Dempster, Nov. 1859-27
Elizabeth, 1865-21
George, 1874-53
George D., 1876-82
James, 1865-13
John, Mar. 1859-19, 20, 23, 24; Nov. 1859-12, 26; Mar. 1860-14; 1863-50; 1867-72, 73, 118; 1868-43, 44; 1878-25, 61
John (Gen.), 1865-13
John (Rev.), 1865-10, 11, 12, 15, 24
John W., 1865-13
Leonard, 1865-13
BEATTY continued
S. M. (Rev.), 1870-67
BEAUBIEN
J. Baptiste (Gen.), 1865-78
BEBB
William, 1864-106
BECK
Martin, 1876-82, 83
BECKERSTAFF
Isaac, 1865-2
BECKLEY
E. L., 1865-85
E. S., 1864-7
BECKWITH
Mr., Sept. 1860-2
A. C., 1866-94
Ann Herrick (Mrs. William W. Beckwith), Mar. 1859-40
D. H., 1876-70
David (Dr.), 1867-66
Perry, May 1859-22; 1874-36, 93, 110
Perry G., 1874-110
R. W., 1876-16; 1878-2
S. P., 1867-90
Seth (Dr.), 1867-66
W. W., 1862-4
William, 1867-66
William W., Mar. 1859-39, 40, 42; 1864-113; 1865-53
BEDELL
Bishop, 1874-104; 1876-56, 60
BEDFORD
John, 1868-80
BEEBE
Mr., 1870-9
A. Jr., 1876-100
Azariah, 1863-67
David, 1861-42
G. S., 1865-85
George, 1865-85
Joanna, Mar. 1860-32
Martin, 1868-85
Mary (Mrs.), 1865-116
Minerva Bell (Mrs. William Beebe), Mar. 1860-25; 1865-13
Semantha, 1865-85
William, 1865-21
William R., Mar. 1860-25; 1865-10, 12, 13, 17; 1868-44, 49
BEECHER
_____, Mar. 1859-24
Cyrenus, Nov. 1859-41
Fanny M., 1868-85
Henry Ward, 1863-18; 1874-107
Horace, 1865-85
J. W. (Rev.), 1863-71
John, 1876-44
Lucas, 1876-36, 44
Luas S., 1876-36, 44
Lyman, 1874-26
Philomon, 1870-63
BEELMAN
Christopher, 1864-62
J. H., 1862-6; 1874-2, 12
BEERS
Anthony, 1865-50
Lewis, Nov. 1859-39; Mar. 1860-28; 1868-37
Louisa, 1867-4

BEERS continued
N., 1865-85
Nathan, June 1858-31; Nov. 1858-16; 1862-5; 1874-60, 109
S. P. (Hon.), 1862-30
Thomas, 1874-60
William, 1868-58
BEITS
William L., 1876-83
BELCHER
Jonathon (Gov.), 1866-102-103
BELDEN
_____ Moffitt (Mrs. Hawley Belden), 1864-39
Hawley, Nov. 1858-16; 1864-39
T., 1870-9
BELDIN
John, 1864-57
BELDING
Mr., 1870-26, 48
Benjamin, 1864-75
Mary Kinsley (Mrs. Belding), 1870-26, 48
William, 1870-48
BELL
_____, 1878-101
Capt., 1868-41
Mr., Nov. 1859-13; 1862-84
Benjamin, 1878-61
Charlotte (Mrs. Nelson Taylor), 1870-45
Eleizur S. Sr., 1865-11, 15, 17, 21
Elias, 1867-41; 1874-86, 87
Horace, 1863- 16
Jacob, 1864-65
John, May 1859-33, 34; 1868-75; 1876-4
Martin, Mar. 1860-27; 1868-41; 1874-86
Minerva, (Mrs. William R. Beebe) (Mrs. William D. Lindsley) Mar. 1860-25; 1865-13
R. A., 1870-32
Rosannah Smith (Mrs. Elias Bell), 1867-41
Stewart E., 1865-15
William, 1876-31
BELTON
Major, 1870-77
BEMIS - BEMISS
Mr., 1868-19; 1870-5
Elijah, June 1858-30, 31, 46; Nov. 1858-2; Nov. 1859-9; Mar. 1860-2; Sept. 1860-1; Sept. 1861-4, 6, 7; 1862-8; 1863-6, 7; 1864-2, 7, 8, 9; 1865-1, 3, 5, 6, 84; 1866-1, 6, 7, 35; 1867-1, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9; 1868-2, 4, 5, 6, 9, 10, 13, 21; 1870- 1, 6, 12, 35, 44
Moses, 1861-5
Rhoa (Mrs. Livy Rash), 1876-116
Rodney, 1866-35; 1870-2
Samuel, 1866-35
Silas, 1876-81, 86
BENDER
Capt., 1874- 63, 72, 73
BENEDICT
Father, 1876-60
Mr., 1874-11
Abraham, 1864-57
Clarissa (Mrs. Hallet Gallup), May 1859-18, 20; 1863-4; 1878-103, 104
BENEDICT continued
D. D., 1874-20
D. D. (Dr.), 1864-6; 1868-13; 1878-103
D. M., 1865-2
Daniel D., May 1859-18
David D. (Dr.), 1874-110
David M., May 1859-18
Eliza Ann, May 1859-18; Sept. 1860-44
H. F., 1863- 3
H. F. (Mrs.), 1865-2
Joel T. (Rev.), 1876-103
Jonas, May 1859-18; Sept. 1860-44; 1868-96
Jonas B., 1878-103
Mary Lockwood (Mrs.), 1866-81
Platt, June 1858-29, 30, 31, 42; Nov. 1858-1, 2; May 1859-16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 28; Nov. 1859-1, 35, 48; Mar. 1860-1, 9, 16, 17, 22; Sept. 1860-1, 36, 41, 42; 1861-1, 3, 4, 6; 1862-1, 5, 6; 1863-2, 4, 7, 9; 1864-1, 2, 3, 5, 6, 8, 18, 111; 1865-2, 4, 5, 84; 1866-1, 3, 4, 6; 1867-1, 4, 5, 6, 82, 84, 85; 1868-2, 96; 1870-43, 44, 87; 1874-20, 42, 84; 1876-45, 46, 47, 48, 52, 55, 56, 57, 58, 59, 107, 109, 110; 1878-21, 98, 103, 104
Platt (Mrs.), 1876-55
Rebbecca (Mrs. Dr. Samuel Wood), 1865-58
BENFER
John T., 1874-59
BENFERS
Elias, 1863- 8
John, 1863-8
BENHAM
_____, Mar. 1859-29
James, Mar. 1860-42
BENJAMIN
Betsy (Mrs. Andrew Parker), Mar. 1860-24
Lydia (Mrs.), 1866-5
BENNETT
Mr., Mar. 1860-22; 1870-72
Benjamin, Mar. 1860-23
Eliza J. (Mrs. L. Starr Smith), 1864-52
H., 1865-64
H. S. (Rev.), 1865-85; 1868-5, 6, 85
Mary A., 1868-85
Robert, 1876-12
Thomas, Mar. 1860-43
BENNINGTON
James, 1874-60
BENNITT
J. H., 1865-85
BENSCHOTER- BENSCHOOTER
Dr., 1862-3
Aaron, 1862-13, 19, 20
Alanson, 1862-19
Almon, 1862-19
Betsey, 1862-13
Betsey D., 1862-19
Cordelia (Mrs. Barry), 1862-19
Curtis, Nov. 1858-32, 34; 1862-13; 1864-97
Daniel, 1862-2, 19, 20
Delia (Mrs. Steepleton), 1862-13
Eliza, 1862-19
Ensign, 1862-13
Esther, (Mrs. Joel Fox), 1862-19
Gardner, 1862-19
Harriet, 1862-13
Harry, 1862-13

BENSCHOTER continued
Hoffman, 1862-19
Jeremiah, June 1858-44; 1862-13; 1863-67, 70; 1876-23
Leander, 1862-19
Mary (Mrs. Oliver Peake), 1862-20
Mary Ann (Mrs. Paxton), 1862-13
Milo, 1862-13
Oliver, 1862-19
Rebecca Smith (Mrs. Daniel Benschoter), 1862-19, 20
Sally Weatherlow (Mrs. Jeremiah Benschoter), 1862-13
Sarah, 1862-13
Sheffield, 1862-19
Weatherlow, 1862-13
William, 1862-13, 19; 1864-97
William (Mrs.), 1876-63
BENSON
Mr., 1864-24
Abigah, 1878-100
Abijah (Capt.), June 1858-30; Nov. 1858-2; 1864-4, 38, 44, 45
Benjamin, June 1858-30; Nov. 1858-1, 2, 18, 19, 22; May 1859-22, 24; Mar. 1860-4, 9, 10, 48; 1861-48; 1862-94; 1863-3, 7; 1865-84; 1867-74, 88
Caroline (Mrs. Walter Hoyt), 1864-43
Dorothy, Nov. 1858-22
Freelove, 1864-45
George, Mar. 1860-3
Leonard, 1865-85; 1878-99
Mary F. (Mrs. Walter Branch), 1864-44; 1878-100
Mary T., 1878-100
BENTLEY-BENTLY
Adamson, 1867-102
Herrick P., 1865-85
Lydia, 1863-6
Robert (Gen.), 1865-117
William Jr., Mar. 1860-29
BENTON
Family, 1865-58
Mr., 1863-69; 1865-58; 1868-17,18
William, May 1859-21
BERCAW
R. M. (Mrs.), 1868-12
BERCH
Wakeman, 1874-30, 37
BERDICK
Sally, 1864-45
BERGIN
George D., 1870-5
BERNARD
Calvin, 1865-85
Henry C., 1874-75
BERRY
Clark, 1864-40
Daniel, 1874-44
Isaac, 1874-54
J. S., 1864-71
Samuel, 1876-83
BETTS
_____ (Mrs. L. Hale), Nov. 1858-43
Father, 1861-18, 20, 22, 23
Mrs., 1868-36
Rev. Dr., May 1859-19; 1861-3; 1866-24, 79; 1876-98
BETTS continued
A. B., 1867-28
Alfred, 1866-94
Alfred (Rev.), 1878-21
Alfred H. (Rev.), June 1858-29; Nov. 1858-41; May 1859-22; Nov. 1859-30, 40, 43; Sept. 1860-6; 1861-24, 26; 1862-29; 1863-14, 78; 1867-28; 1868-29, 31, 71
Charles, Nov. 1859-15, 19; 1861-1, 1874-31; 1876-34, 58, 59
Conger X.,(Rev.), 1863-71
Elizabeth, Mar. 1860-27
J. Freeman (Mrs. Robert H. Betts), Mar. 1860-25
Peter, 1864-57
Robert H., Mar. 1860-25
Robert W., Nov. 1858-41, 43; 1874-29, 93
Samuel, Mar. 1860-27
Susan F., 1874-29
Susan Ferman (Mrs. Walter Betts), 1870-30
Susan Furman (Mrs. Robert W. Betts), Nov. 1858-43
Walter, 1870-30
Xenophon (Rev.), Nov. 1859-13, 40; Mar. 1860-27; 1868-6, 7, 9, 27; 1874-10, 93
BEVANS
Ebenzer, 1876-5
BEVARD
Mathew, Mar. 1859-16
BEVERSTOCK
_____ Reed (Mrs. Volney Beverstock), 1867-90
A. B., Sept. 1860-45; 1876-119
Allen, 1864-34
Edwin J., 1874-59
Laura Ann Read (Mrs. Allen Beverstock), 1864-34
Louisa Underhill (Mrs. A. B. Beverstock), Sept. 1860-45
V., 1870-12
Volney, 1864-33; 1867-90
BEVIER
Abram, 1866-94
J. E., 1870-51
BEVINGTON
Lt., 1874-72
BEYMER
Christiana, Mar. 1859-14; Mar. 1860-21
Fanny (Mrs. Burns), Mar. 1859-14
George, Mar. 1859-9, 10, 13, 14
Harriet (Mrs. James Skinner);Mar. 1859-10; Mar. 1860-24
Louisa (Mrs. Lisle), Mar. 1859-10, 14
McIntyre, Mar. 1859-10, 14
Minerva, Mar. 1859-10
Ruth (Mrs.), 1868-85
Ruth Skinner (Mrs. St. Clair Beymer), Mar. 1859-15
St. Clair, Mar. 1859-14, 15
William, Mar. 1859-14, 16
BICKFORD
Hilkiah, 1863-37, 39
BIERCE
Mr., 1870-99
L.V. (Gen.), 1861-39; 1870-7, 85, 89
BIERSTADT
_____ (an artist), 1865-62
BIGELOW
Rev., 1866-24

BIGELOW continued
Eliphaz, Mar. 1859-36
Mehetabel (Mrs. John Fay), Mar. 1859-36
Russell, 1874-14
Samuel A., Mar. 1860-22
BIGGER
John, 1864-106
BIGGS
Uriah, 1866-84
BIGLOW
Deacon, 1868-92
BILL
_____ Horner (Mrs. W. I. Bill), 1867-90
C. C., 1861-15
Earl, 1861-8, 14
Horace H. (Lt.), 1876-78, 79, 82
P. B., 1863-71
W. I. (Mrs.), 1867-90
BILLINGS
Solomon, 1864-64
BILLINGTON
Helen (Mrs. John Billington), Mar. 1860-20
John, Mar. 1860-20
John Jr., Mar. 1860-20
BILLS
Daniel, 1863-50, 51
Elijah, June 1858-30; Nov. 1858-1; 1863-50, 52; 1868-13; 1870-52
Mary Howard (Mrs. Elijah Bills); 1863-50
BINGHAM
William, 1870-50
BIRCH
Albert, 1874-59
BIRD
Parson, 1862-92
BIRDSELL
Mathew R., 1876-86
BIRDSEYE
Enoch L., 1874-59
G. P., 1876-52, 58, 126
BISHOP
A. E. (Rev.), 1876-126
Amos, Mar. 1860-11
Andrew, 1861-46
Ezra (Capt.), 1862-90
George, June 1858-44; Sept. 1860-14; 1865-43, 44, 45, 51; 1866-54, 55; 1867-51, 69; 1870-68, 72, 74; 1876-27, 32; 1878-18
Jemima (Mrs. Daniel Butler), 1862-16
John, 1866-56
Nancy (Mrs. Simon Perkins), 1862-90,91
T. P., 1861-5
BISSEL - BISSELL
_____(Mrs. George R. Gaston), 1867-90
_____McKinney (Mrs. Anson Bissell), 1867-90
_____Smith (Mrs. George Bissel), 1870-20
Anson, 1867-90
George, 1863-58; 1870-20
Ira, Mar. 1860-23
Milton, 1876-98
Polly Hand (Mrs. Ira Bissel), Mar. 1860-23
Robert, 1865-71
Rosanna, 1867-90
Samuel (Rev.), 1865-71
BIXLER
Frank M., 1863-3
BLACK
Mr., 1868-59
James, 1867-45
John, 1867-45
BLACKMAN
Deacon, 1876-3
Esquire, 1870-20
Mr., 1868-50
_____ Smith (Mrs. Esquire Blackman), 1870-20
Allen, May 1859-24
Ira, Mar. 1860-24
Joel, 1861-2; 1865-84
Judson, 1868-50
Levina Smith (Mrs. Ira Blackman) Mar. 1860-24
Mamida, 1878-102
Sarah (Mrs.), 1861-2
William, 1863-55
William (Capt.), 1878-102
BLACKSTONE
William (Dr.), 1870-51
BLAIR
Adjt., 1874-72
Benjamin F., 1874-59
BLAKE
Simon P., 1874-59
BLAKESLEE
Joel, 1865-109, 110
BLANCHARD
Mr., Mar. 1859-26; 1862-83; 1864-85, 89, 99; 1878-27
Albert, 1874-60
Charles, Mar. 1859-28
Samuel, 1864-85
BLASDEL
Mr., Nov. 1858-40
Harriet Beardsley (Mrs. Blasdel), Nov. 1858-40
BLENNERHASSETT
Family, 1866-92
BLINN
Mr., Nov. 1859-24
BLISH
Albert, 1874-59
BLISS
Mr., 1866-116
E. F., 1870-50
Henry, Mar. 1860-23
Jacob, 1867-3
Nancy, (Mrs. Henry Bliss), Mar. 1860-23
Oliver, 1866-116
BLODGET - BLODGETT
Mr.,1870-30
Abraham, 1864-84
Alvin, Mar. 1860-37, 38
Sarah (Mrs. J. H. Bly), 1867-87
BLOOD
_____, 1876-101
BLOOMER
Mr., 1864-86
Mrs. (Mrs. Amos Abbott), May 1859-20
C. A., June 1858-30; Nov. 1858-2; 1864-86
C. B., 1864-87
Coles A., 1864-87
George, 1864-87
Rueben, 1864-84
BLOSIER
Henry, 1874-60

BLUE
Family, 1868-59
BLY
A. F., 1867-87
Almira Tuttle (Mrs. Alvin Bly), 1867-87
Alvin, 1867-87
Clarinda (Mrs. Ebenezer Lawrence), 1867-87
D. W., 1867-87
Hannah Rathbone (Mrs. Joseph Bly), 1867-85
J. H., 1867-87
Joseph, 1867-85
Julia Pomeroy (Mrs. A. F. Bly), 1867-87
Lysander, 1867-87
Mary Barney (Mrs. Rouse Bly), 1867-86
Mary J. Harris (Mrs. Lysander Bly), 1867-87
Rouse, June 1858-30; Nov. 1858-2; Mar. 1859-10; Nov. 1859-46; Mar. 1860-2; 1863-4; 1864-62; 1865-84; 1866-2; 1867-4, 85, 86, 87
Samantha (Mrs. Henry Insley), 1867-87
Sarah Acker (Mrs. A. F. Bly), 1867-87
Sarah Blodget (Mrs. J. H. Bly), 1867-87
Sophia Barney Coe (Mrs. Rouse Bly), Nov. 1859-46; 1867-86
BOALT
Mr., 1874-8, 112; 1876-40, 43
Amanda, 1876-46
Ann, Sept. 1860-44
C. L., 1874-7, 8, 10, 112, 118; 1876-49, 52, 58
Charles L., June 1858-29; Sept. 1860-40, 42, 44; 1865-46, 85; 1874-7, 9, 23, 84, 92, 118; 1876-36, 43, 58
Charles Leicester, 1874-117
Clarrisa, 1876-46
Diantha (Mrs. Strong), 1870-3
Eben, May 1859-22; 1862-83; 1876-48, 49, 58, 59
F. H., 1876-45, 58
Frederick, 1876-45
Giles, 1870-7; 1876-56, 58
J., 1865-52
J. M., 1878-25
John (Capt.), May 1859-18, 21; Mar. 1860-17; 1865-2, 46, 51; 1870-3; 1874-84; 1876-46, 59
John M., 1874-112
Lester, 1876-45
Martha, 1876-46
Ruth (Mrs. John Boalt), May 1859-21; 1876-45, 46
Sally (Mrs. William Gallup), May 1859-20
Susan, 1874-112
BOARDMAN
Mr., 1867-84
Rev. Mr., 1876-70
Amos, 1874-93
Hiram, 1867-74; 1874-11, 93
James, Mar. 1860-11
Prudena, 1874-93
BOBERTS
B. F., 1876-70
BODINE
Angeline (Mrs.), 1866-9, 94
C. E., 1866-9
Cornelius, 1866-94
BODINE continued
George, 1866-9
BODWELL
Horace, June 1858-45; May 1859-24
L. M., 1865-84; 1868-9
William, 1864-7
BOGART
Jay, 1874-60
Joseph O. (Col.), Mar. 1860-11
BOGGS
Margaret (Mrs.), 1870-79
R., 1861-4
Robert, 1861-43
BOICE
B. V., 1876-113
BOLLINBARBER
Charles, Nov. 1859-11
BOLT
George, 1868-50
BOMBAUGH
C. C., (Dr.), 1870-78
BOMHART
Catharine (Mrs. William H. Brooks), 1863-82
Elizabeth (Mrs. Jacob Sherarts), 1863-79
BONAPARTE
Napoleon, 1863-11; 1864-74
BOND
Eli, Mar. 1859-4, 5
Moses, 1864-64
Orrin G., 1874-59
Stanley F., 1874-59
BONE
J. H. A., 1870-50
BONETT
Samuel P., 1876-81
BONN
George H., 1874-60
BOOK
Beckwith, Mar. 1860-36
BOONE
Widow (Mrs. Zelotus Barrett), 1878-99
Enoch, 1878-99
BOORAM
Isaac, Mar. 1859-24
BOOTH
Mr., Nov. 1859-46
Mrs., 1876-59
John, Mar. 1860-26
M., Mar. 1860-27
Marcellus, Mar. 1860-26; 1868-37, 58
O. H., 1876-125
BOOTHE
William, 1876-10
BOQUET
Col., 1866-119
BORDER
Levi, 1861-2
BORDERS
Ralph, 1865-14
BORDMAN
Elder, 1868-75
BORELING
Rebecca (Mrs. Jacob Minges), Mar. 1860-24
BOSCH
Otto, 1876-83
BOSLER
Joseph, 1876-86

BOSTIC
William, Mar. 1860-27
BOSTON
Thomas H. (Rev.), 1878-62
BOSTWICK
Miss, 1864-11
Mr., 1864-109; 1868-41
C. R., 1876-127
Charles R., 1878-108
Daniel, 1868-66
I. N., 1878-21
Mary Stiles (Mrs. Daniel Bostwick), 1868-66
Rebecca Mygatt (Mrs. Bostwick), Mar. 1859-31, 32
BOTCHFORD
Betty, 1866-5
Sallie (Mrs.), 1870-5
BOTSFORD
Betty, 1874-6
Charles H., 1874-105
Dinah (Mrs. Mark Summers), Nov. 1858-43; 1878-65
Josiah, 1864-54
BOTT
J. G., 1867-74
Kate, 1867-74
R. E., 1867-74
William, Mar. 1860-9
BOUGHTON
Derwin, 1865-85
Durwin, Mar. 1860-33
Eli, May 1859-16
J. G., 1876-127
Jones, 1867-2
BOULEY
Mr, 1866-55
BOWEN
Judge, 1874-30
Anson T., 1874-59
John (Sen.), Mar. 1860-36
Kinman, Mar. 1860-33
Kirsman, Mar. 1860-36
Luke (Rev.), Nov. 1859-5
Pearse, 1865-85
Saloma, 1867-74
W. T., 1866-94; 1870-12
William, 1874-99
BOWER
W. (Rev.), 1870-51
BOWERS
Peter, 1867-66
Silas, Nov. 1858-16
BOWES
J. P., 1876-58
J. R., 1876-58
BOWERSOX
J. G. (Rev.), 1874-52
BOWKER
Herbert, 1876-81
BOWLES
Mr., 1862-14
J. C. (Rev.), 1876-69
BOWMAN
Mr., 1870-24
Betsey (Mrs. Truman Bates), 1870-24
BOYCE
Lt., 1874-70, 72, 73
T. W. (Lt.), 1874-74
BOYNTON
Lewis D., 1876-29
W. W., 1876-28
BRACKENBURY
Elder, 1863-59
BRACKET
Ichabod, 1866-52, 53
BRADFORD
Gov., 1864-111
Mr., 1870-109
Dorothy (Mrs. William Bradford), Mar. 1860-19
Hannah (Mrs. Joshua Ripley), 1864-111
William, Mar. 1860-19
BRADISH
J., Sept. 1860-1
BRADLEY
A., 1876-36
Abraham, 1870-77, 78; 1876-36
Leveritt, May 1859-20; 1876-58
Marinda (Mrs. Daniel Hemenway), 1874-97
Marinda (Mrs. Marshall Johnson), Nov. 1859-42; 1868-34
Philip Burr, Sept. 1860-39; 1863-95
Phineas, 1870-78
Rachel L., 1864-9
Walter, Nov. 1858-14
BRADSHAW
William, 1865-85
BRADSTREET
Rev. , 1866-24
BRADY
Capt., 1865-117
C., 1864-74
Charity Kniffin (Mrs. Charles Brady), 1864-77
Charles, 1864-77
David J., 1865-85
Henry, 1862-28
Levert, 1876-58
BRAGG
Gen. 1865-2
John, 1876-14, 127
BRAINERD
A. (Rev.), Sept. 1861-6
Asa (Rev.), 1865-84
John, 1863-6; 1866-94
Sarah J., 1868-85
BRAMAN
Horace, 1865-63
Lydia Winsor (Mrs. Horace Braman), 1865-63
BRAMBLE
A. L., 1866-87
BRANCH
Mr., 1864-36
Augustus, 1864-44
D. G. (M. D.), 1863-71; 1876-63
Louisa, 1864-44
Mary, 1864-44
Mary F. Benson (Mrs. Walter Branch), 1864-44
Melvin Dexter, 1864-44
Phila Dexter (Mrs. Walter Branch), 1864-44
Phila Jane, 1864-44
Prudence, 1864-44
Vine, 1864-44
Walter (Capt.), 1864-3, 4, 44; 1865-84; 1878-100
BRANDT
John, 1867-61
Joseph, 1867-61

BRANT
Hiram, 1876-86
BRAWLEY
H. B., 1870-51
BRECK
L. W., 1870-22
Robert, 1865-2
BRECKENRIDGE
_____, 1878-93
Lt., 1874-72
Almira N., 1864-33
Ann F., 1864-33
F. A., 1867-8
Frank A., 1864-33
Frank H., 1874-59
George W., 1864-33; 1876-109
Giles C., 1864-33
H. C., 1865-84; 1866-8
James, Mar. 1860-21, 22; 1864-32, 33, 35; 1865-84
Jane E., 1864-33
Jeannette, 1864-33
Jonathan, Mar. 1860-21
Lovina J. (Mrs. James Breckenridge), 1864-32, 35
M. (Rev.), 1874-32
Myron (Rev.), 1874-31
BRENTON
Joseph L., 1876-77
BREWBAKER
Mr., May 1859-18; 1862-26
A., June 1858-30; Nov. 1858-2
Andrew, Mar. 1859-10, 11; 1865-84
Jacob, Mar. 1859-16
BREWER
_____, 1866-116
Abram, Mar. 1860-21
Richard D., 1876-83
BREWSTER
Mr., 1861-15
Albe, Mar. 1860-11
Charles F., 1874-110
E. P. 1874-110
Love, Mar. 1860-19
Lucretia, Mar. 1860-19
Moses Park, 1874-110
William, Mar. 1860-19; 1874-110
Wresting, Mar. 1860-19
BRIGGS
Mr., May 1859-9; 1868-88, 89, 90
Mrs., 1867-3
A. (Mrs.), 1876-4
Alexander, Mar. 1860-38; 1862-7; 1865-85; 1876-117
Alzinea Barker (Mrs. D. W. Briggs), 1864-71, 76; 1865-85; 1876-34
Asa, 1876-2
B. C., 1865-84; 1867-5
Benjamin, Mar. 1860-38; 1862-3; 1874-21; 1876-117
D. W., 1864-71, 76
D. W. (Mrs.), 1876-34
David, 1864-77
David W., 1864-70, 74, 76; 1865-84
George, 1864-74
J., 1878-5
John, 1876-81
Leonard, 1868-83
BRIGGS continued
Sarah Palmer (Mrs. Leonard Briggs), 1868-83
Susannah, 1862-7; 1876-117
BRIGHT
Fanny (Mrs.), 1868-85
J. B. (Mrs.), 1876-3
BRIGHTMAN
A., 1865-85
Alfred, 1865-52
Alvin, 1865-52; 1876-122
Anna, 1865-52
Daniel, 1864-113; 1865-52; 1876-110
Elizabeth (Mrs. Daniel Brightman), 1864-113; 1865-52
Elizabeth (Mrs. Parks), 1864-3; 1865-52
Gilbert, 1865-52
Harriet (Mrs. Barnet Roe), 1865-52; 1878-111
Harry, 1865-52
Pardon, 1865-52
BRIGMAN
William, 1867-28
BRINK
E., 1878-25
Elijah, Mar. 1859-20; 1878-25
BRINKERHOFF
Josiah, Mar. 1860-2
R. (Gen.), 1870-51, 1876-125
BRION
A. W. D., Sept. 1860-22
BRISCOE
Julia A., (Mrs. Rundle Palmer), 1868-84
BRISTOL
Mr., 1861-24
Mrs., 1874-7
Charles, Mar. 1860-31; 1864-6
Eunice Sherman (Mrs. Samuel Bristol), 1868-97
S., 1868-48, 58
Samuel, Nov. 1859-39; 1868-8, 13, 30, 31, 97; 1874-6
Samuel (Mrs.), 1874-6
Sarah (Mrs. Charles Bristol), Mar. 1860-31
Sarah G., 1870-32
BRITCHARD
Richard, Mar. 1860-20
BRITLE
Israel, 1874-47
BROADWELL
J. S. (Rev.), 1878-52
M. L., 1866-88
BROBECK
Sarah (Mrs. Benjamin S. Washburn), Nov. 1858-43
BROCK
Gen., Mar. 1859-3
BROCKELBANK
Betsy, 1870-8
Samuel, 1870-8
BROCKWAY
Edward, Mar. 1859-33
Ira, 1862-40
Lydia (Mrs. Samuel Spencer), Mar. 1859-33
BROMFIELD
Major, 1870-18
BRONSON
_____ Banning, May 1859-22
Mr., Mar. 1859-45, 48; 1865-61, 1876-48, 49
Rev. Dr., 1866-24; 1867-58; 1874-8, 118
Abijah Rundell, 1868-81
Abraham, 1868-30, 33, 34

BRONSON continued
Abraham (Dr.), Mar. 1859-45; Nov. 1859-42
Abram, Nov. 1859-39; Mar. 1860-26; 1868-33
Alfred, Nov. 1859-37; 1863-18
Azor, Nov. 1859-3
Bela, Nov. 1859-2, 3
Benjamin, June 1858-45; Nov. 1858-39
C. (Rev.), May 1859-21, 22
C. P., Mar. 1859-45; Nov. 1859-6
C. P. (Rev.), 1876-47
Eli S., Nov. 1859-19
Ira, 1864-43
Isaac, June 1858-22; Nov. 1859-19; 1862-10; 1878-13
Levi, Nov. 1859-2, 6
Lorenzo W., 1865-84
Rachel, Nov. 1859-19
S. A. (Rev.), Nov. 1859-1; 1865-84; 1876-45
Sally Twitchell (Mrs. Bela Bronson), Nov. 1859-3
Seba, Nov. 1859-3
Sherlock, May 1859-21
BROOK
Tiber, 1863-37
BROOKS
_____, 1870-12
A., 1876-35
Absalom, 1862-20
Adaline Squire (Mrs. John Brooks Jr.), Nov. 1859-15; 1867-88
Ann Miller (Mrs. Joseph Brooks), 1863-82, 83
Asenath (Mrs. Zebulon Carey), 1863-82
Benjamin, Nov. 1858-38; 1863-82, 83; 1866-6
Betsey, 1863-79
Betsy (Mrs. James Prentice), Mar. 1860-23; 1863-82, 83
Betsey Sherarts (Mrs. Jonathan Brooks), 1863-79, 82
Caroline (Mrs. Sherwood), 1863-83
Catharine Bomhart (Mrs. William H. Brooks), 1863-82
D. C., 1865-85
Eliza Allport (Mrs. James P. Brooks), 1863-82
Elizabeth, 1863-83
Eunice, 1863-83
Ezekial, Nov. 1859-46
George, Nov. 1859-16, 19
Henry, 1867-2
Homer, 1870-12; 1876-10, 16; 1878-2
J. Jr., 1876-34
J. W., 1876-113
James A., June 1858-39
James P., 1863-82
John, Nov. 1859-16; 1868-38, 41
John Jr., Nov. 1859-15; 1867-88
John Sr., Nov. 1859-15, 16, 19
Jonathan, Nov. 1858-38; 1861-21; 1863-73, 79, 82; 1866-5
Jonathon I., 1866-5, 6
Joseph, Nov. 1858-39; May 1859-47; 1863-73, 82, 83; 1864-91; 1876-24
Joseph Sr., 1876-34
L., 1864-5
Laura (Mrs. Richard S. Harris), 1863-82
Lemuel, Nov. 1858-17; 1863-3; 1874-88
Lucy (Mrs. Albert Sherwood), 1863-83
BROOKS continued
Margaret (Mrs. Leonard Loomis), 1863-82
Maria Kitchen (Mrs. Joseph Brooks), 1863-83
Mary Ann, 1863-83
Mary E. (Mrs. Philander Crozier), 1863-82
Moses, 1864-118
O. A., 1878-105
Philo, 1876-127
Rachel Barnum (Mrs. Joseph Brooks), 1864-91
Reuben, 1862-20; 1863-73
Sarah E. (Mrs. Jonathan Jones), 1863-82
William, 1862-20, 1863-4
William H., 1863-82
BROOMBECK
D., 1863-61
BROSS
William, 1865-106, 112, 113
BROUGH
John (Gov.), 1874-73; 1876-81
BROWBECKER
Mary (Mrs. William Truxel), Mar. 1860-25
BROWN
Dr., 1870-90
Gen., 1866-51
Judge, 1861-23
Miss, (Mrs. William Hurbert), 1865-82
Mr., 1861-9; 1878-101
Rev., 1865-120
A., 1864-7; 1865-114
A. G., 1870-51
Alexander, 1867-114
Andrew, 1867-114
Azra (Rev.), 1870-38
Basil, 1878-61
Beulah Conant (Mrs. Peter Brown), 1865-82
Collins A., 1865-85;
D. F., 1865-82, 85; 1867-4
E., 1861-12
Ebenezer, Mar. 1860-37
Edwin H., 1865-85; 1874-59
Elizabeth (Mrs. George DeZang), 1863-68; 1865-57
Elizabeth (Mrs. Cole), 1863-68
Emily Jane (Mrs. James Hamilton Jr.), 1864-30
Ethan, 1876-32
Ethan Allen (Hon.), June 1858-34, 39; 1864-84, 105; 1866-67; 1876-112
Eunice, 1865-85; 1876-96, 123
F. T., 1876-118
George, 1864-30
George R. (Rev.), 1868-9, 10; 1876-61, 62
Hannah, 1867-4
Hannah Griswold (Mrs. Peter Brown), 1865-82
Hannah Richmond (Mrs. Brown)(Mrs. Asa Smith), 1863-68
Henry, Sept. 1861-5; 1862-6; 1876-58
Henry W., 1864-43
Isaac, 1878-61
J. H., 1861-12
J. M., 1865-84; 1878-25
J. N., 1863-60
J. W., (Gen.), 1870-55
Jacob (Major Gen.), 1870-55
James H., Mar. 1860-42
Jane (Mrs.), 1868-12
John, 1863-78, 79; 1864-109
John (Gen.), 1870-51
John (Rev.), 1870-3

BROWN continued
John M., Mar. 1859-20
John S., 1864-30
Leonard, 1865-85
Leroy W., 1867-3
Lodowick, 1865-12
Lucy (Mrs. Lyman Miller) (Mrs. Pogue), 1863-68
Mary (Mrs. David Abbott), Nov. 1859-22
Matthew, Nov. 1859-22; 1867-69
Nelson, 1864-28
Orias, 1870-101
Orlando, 1865-84; 1866-78
Orrin, 1864-28
Oscar E., 1876-82
Peter, Mar. 1860-20, 36, 42; 1861-6; 1865-82; 1878-75
Pitts, Sept. 1860-21
Pliny Walker, Sept. 1860-16, 33, 34; 1866-77, 78
Polly (Mrs. Huntington), 1865-31
S., 1865-32
S. J., 1866-87
Samuel, 1865-31; 1868-81; 1870-108
Samuel J. (Rev.), 1864-117, 118; 1868-23
Sarah, 1865-84
Sarah ____ Tuttle (Mrs. Seth Brown), 1864-30
Seth, Mar. 1859-28; May 1859-26; Sept. 1860-39, 43; 1864-28, 29, 30, 31, 35; 1878-77, 78
Sidney, Mar. 1859-37; Sept. 1860-40, 45; 1864-22
Simon, 1874-86
Smyrona, 1867-74
Solomon, 1874-60
W. H., 1865-110
William, 1876-83
BROWNELL
Abel, Mar. 1859-41
Elizabeth (Mrs. Daniel Brightman), 1865-52
Joseph, 1862-41; 1863-90,92
Thomas, 1870-113
BRUBAKER
Andrew, Nov. 1859-46; 1862-28
Polly, 1862-28
Rebecca, 1862-28
BRUIN
_____, Nov. 1859-40
BRUMBACKER
Christopher, 1862-28
BRUMM
Charles, 1874-60, 75
BRUMRIEL
Mr., May 1859-20
BRUNDAGE
Z., 1865-85
BRUSH
Capt., 1861-43
BRYANT
Mr., 1870-116
John, Mar. 1860-22
Jonathan, 1861-26
Lucy French (Mrs.), 1868-7, 8
William Cullen, 1878-120
BUCHANAN
Mr., 1864-15
BUCHANAN continued
Harvey, 1868-93
James (Mrs.), 1868-13
Jane (Mrs. Thomas Buchanan), 1868-93
John, 1863-59; 1876-35; 1878-100
Robert, 1868-23
Thomas, 1867-100
Thomas (Mrs.), 1868-93
BUCHER
Myron, 1874-31
BUCK
_____ (Mrs. Abram Bronson), 1868-30
Capt., 1862-15
A., 1868-30, 58
A. P., 1865-85
Aaron (Capt.), 1863-85
Albert D., 1874-60
Benona, 1865-19
Daniel, 1865-85
Dwight, 1865-13, 19, 85
Hester (Mrs. Aaron Root, 1863-85
Jonathan, 1876-28
Lucretia (Mrs. Peter Lake) (Mrs. Israel Waggoner), 1866-59
Nelson, 1865-19
Rhoda (Mrs. Almon Ruggles), 1863-85
Rhoda ____ Case (Mrs. Aaron C. Buck), 1863-85
Robert, 1876-10
Walter, 1876-28, 29
BUCKINGHAM
Gov., 1866-103
Mr., 1863-30; 1868-99
Ezekial, 1864-63
George T., 1861-9, 10, 11; 1868-79
H., 1864-111; 1868-80, 81; 1874-47
Henry, May 1859-20, 22; 1861-8; 1876-16, 108
John, 1861-48; 1868-9; 1876-54; 1878-2
T., 1870-78
BUCKLAND
R. P. (Gen.), 1867-4; 1868-13
Ralph P., 1868-20, 85
BUCKLEY
Mr., 1865-64
Ellis, 1864-7
Leonard H., Mar. 1860-22
Mary (Mrs. Joab Squires), 1867-87
BUCKMAN
Edward, 1868-8
W., 1868-8
BUEL-BUELL
_____, 1878-17, 23
Daniel, June 1858-44; Nov. 1858-5; Mar. 1859-2, 19, 21, 26, 32; Nov. 1859-27; Sept. 1860-2, 4, 46; 1862-76, 77; 1863-74; 1864-99, 110; 1865-5, 41; 1866-66, 67, 68, 69; 1870-69
David, 1870-77
Joseph (Gen.), 1866-92
Lucy (Mrs. G. Jackson), 1874-94
Mason, 1870-32
Solomon, 1870-77
BUILDERBAUGH
Charles, 1868-103
Jacob, 1868-103, 104
BULKLEY
John, (Rev.), 1870-80, 81, 82
Jonah, 1878-10
BULL
Mrs., Sept. 1860-41

BULL continued
E., 1878-32
Edward C., 1870-73
Epaphroditus W., Mar. 1859-29, 30, 31, 32; Sept. 1860-36; 1863-24, 25; 1870-63, 68, 72; 1876-37; 1878-32
Polly (Mrs. Epaphas W. Bull), Mar. 1859-29, 30, 31; May 1859-17
BULLARD
Sarah (Mrs. Horace Ramsdell), 1874-97
BULLOCK
_____, 1870-69
BUMER
George, Mar. 1860-21
BUNCE
Dr., 1868-41
Mr., 1868-41
C. J., 1865-85
Celestia A., 1868-7
E. J., 1863-6; 1868-6, 7,; 1870-12; 1874-2, 22
E. J. (Mrs.), 1874-6
Ebenezer K. S., 1876-81
Edward (Mrs.), 1876-3
Edward J., 1874-85, 99
Hiram (Dr.), 1868-41
Isaac, Mar. 1860-28
Mary, 1870-32
Olivia S. (Mrs.), 1866-94
Rufus, 1868-36, 58; 1876-3
BUNCO
Ebenezer K. S., 1876-81
BUNKER
Mrs., 1866-56
BUNNEL
David, 1866-69
BURBANK
_____, Nov. 1858-42
Delpha Harris (Mrs. Burbank), Nov. 1858-42
BURCH
W., 1876-10, 16; 1878-2
BURDICK
George W., Mar. 1860-42
BURDUE
Mr., 1868-49; 1876-91, 92
Elizabeth (Mrs.), 1860-8
George, Mar. 1860-8
Jacob, Nov. 1858-37; 1874-109
John, Nov. 1858-34, 37; 1862-81
Margaret (Mrs. Nathaniel Burdue), Nov. 1858-32, 33, 34, 35
Nathaniel, Nov. 1858-32, 33, 34, 35; Sept. 1860-4; 1865-84
Rebecca, 1862-81
Welsh, Mar. 1860-6
William, May 1859-47; Mar. 1860-5, 6
BURGESS
Mr., 1868-17
Hannah (Mrs. David Walker), 1862-24
M. M., 1876-5
Mary (Mrs. Burton Parsons), 1863-81
O., 1867-28
Phebe (Mrs.), 1864-6
BURGHART
Hannah (Mrs. George H. Woodruff), 1870-35, 36
BURGOYNE
_____, 1867-103; 1868-6
BURK-BURKE
_____ Taylor (Mrs. B. B. Burk), 1868-112
B. B., 1868-112
L. D., 1878-5
Rhoda (Mrs. Almon Ruggles), Mar. 1860-23
Joseph, Nov. 1859-5
BURLINGHAM
Edmond, Mar. 1860-42
O. H., Mar. 1860-42
BURNER
Philip Wine, 1863-61
BURNES
Andrews, 1864-46
BURNET-BURNETT
_____ Wallace (Mrs. Jacob Burnet), 1865-121
Judge, June 1858-15; 1866-108, 109
Mr., 1868-110
Eliza Eaton, 1870-11
Isaac C., 1868-111
Jacob, 1865-121, 1870-108
Nelly (Mrs. Thomas Hageman), Mar. 1859-40
BURNHAM
Mrs., 1874-25
E., 1863-4
Ellsworth, 1862-24, 26; 1865-85
Jedediah (Capt.), May 1859-37; 1878-81, 82, 85, 86
Julia Hine (Mrs. S. T. Burnham), 1862-18
Maria, 1865-85
Mary R. (Mrs. Nathaniel Thorpe), 1862-26
Moses, 1862-25, 26; 1874-25
Moses (Mrs.), 1874-93
Moses R., 1862-25
S. T., 1862-18
W. F., 1874-60
BURNS
A., (Rev.), 1864-4; 1865-85
Andrew, 1864-46
Eliza Fitch (Mrs. William Burns), 1864-85
Fanny (Mrs.), Mar. 1859-14
James, 1874-60
Robert W., 1874-59
William, 1864-85
BURNSIDE
Joseph, 1876-123
BURR
Aaron, 1866-90, 92
Abigal, 1863-60
Austin, 1868-74
Caroline, 1868-9
Charles, Nov. 1859-8; 1876-87
Curtiss, 1868-9
Eunice (Mrs. Lemuel Pierce), 1868-41; 1874-106
F. (Elder), 1874-85
Gershon, 1864-9
John, 1868-50; 1874-106
Joseph O., 1867-74
Julia (Mrs. Benjamin Summers), Nov. 1858-43; 1876-8, 117; 1878-66
Sally (Mrs. Johnson Wheeler), 1868-48
Thaddeus, 1863-96
Thaddeus (Mrs.), June 1858-20
BURRALL
Charles (Col.), 1863-95
Oscar, 1874-20

BURREL-BURRELL-BURRIL
_____, 1867-78
_____(Mrs. Joseph Treat) (Mrs. Rev. Luther Humphrey), 1864-103
Capt., 1864-103
Alexander, Mar. 1860-13
Joseph, Mar. 1860-13
Zachariah, Mar. 1860-37
BURRIT
Zachariah, Mar. 1860-43
BURROUGHS
_____, 1863-82
BURROWS
Fanny, 1876-4, 6
BURRS
_____, 1864-37
BURT
_____, 1864-31; 1866-116; 1867-90; 1878-85
_____ (Mrs. G. W. Mears), 1867-90
_____ Messenger (Mrs. Richard Burt), 1867-90
Andrew J., 1864-117
George, 1864-28, 31
Henry, 1864-28, 31
Henry (Col.), 1864-31; 1865-47, 51
John, 1864-28, 31; 1868-85
M. E., 1865-2
Richard, 1860-39; 1864-28, 31; 1865-43; 1867-90
Strong, 1864-28
BURTON
Mr., 1868-50
C. L., 1866-4; 1867-45
Marshall, Sept. 1860-17
Thomas, 1876-3
BURTS
Richard, Mar. 1860-23
BUSH
_____, 1878-26
David, 1864-65
George, 1868-67
H. W. (Capt.), Mar. 1860-3; 1865-12; 1870-32
John, 1868-11
Roxanna, 1870-32
BUSHNELL-BUSHNEL
Eli (Deacon), 1865-118
S. G., 1878-82
BUSKIRK
George, 1874-59, 74
BUSTON
Thomas, 1868-7
BUTLER
_____ Parker (Mrs. Charles Butler), Sept. 1860-15
Col., June 1858-25
Dr., 1864-100, 101
Major, Sept. 1860-36
Mr., Sept. 1860-11
Mrs., Sept. 1860-17, 47; 1874-33
Abigail Barr (Mrs. David Butler), 1862-26
Amanda, 1862-16
Benajah, Nov. 1858-43
C., 1865-2
Charles, June 1858-44; Sept. 1860-12, 15, 16, 19, 48
Charles B., 1862-16
BUTLER continued
Clarissa Parker (Mrs. Charles Butler), Sept. 1860-16
Climena, 1862-16
Cyrus, Nov. 1859-16; 1861-25
Daniel, Mar. 1860-23, 25; 1862-2, 15, 16, 21, 28
Daniel B., 1862-16
David, 1862-26
E., 1874-3
Erastus, Nov. 1859-16
George, Sept. 1860-12; 1862-26
H. W., 1876-76
Harriet J., 1862-16
Jemima Bishop (Mrs. Daniel Butler), 1862-16
Julia, June 1858-44; Sept. 1860-12, 48; 1864-101
Lucinda A., 1862-16
Marietta Washburn (Mrs. Benajah Butler), Nov. 1858-43
Phileana (Mrs.), 1858-44
Rebecca (Mrs. David L. Elsworth), Mar. 1860-23
Reuben, 1862-28
Russell W., 1868-85
Samuel, 1862-22
Sarah Ann, 1862-28
Sherman (Mrs.), 1874-6
Smith, June 1858-44; Sept. 1860-107
Sukey (Mrs. Noah Hill), 1862-22
Thomas, 1878-61
William, 1878-61
William O., 1865-105
BUTMAN
_____ Reed (Mrs. Thomas Butman), 1862-15
Miss, 1861-45
J., 1876-124
Maria, Mar. 1860-15
Thomas, 1862-15
BUTT
George, 1876-127
BUTTERFIELD
F. W., 1876-78
George, 1863-79
Rebecca Sherarts (Mrs. George Butterfield), 1863-79
W., 1861-9
BUTTON
William, Mar. 1860-19
BUYER
L., 1874-60
Napoleon, 1874-60
BYERS
Mr., 1865-74

CABEAUX
_____, 1878-27
CABLE
Eunice (Mrs. Levi Cable), Mar. 1860-31
Fielding, 1861-14
John, 1865-86
Joseph, 1861-14
Levi, Mar. 1860-31
Owen A., 1866-94
Samuel, 1874-44
Stephen, 1874-44

CADY
Daniel (Capt.), 1866-76
Mary S. (Mrs. Samuel B. Caldwell), 1874-112
CAESAR
(Negro), 1866-107
CAHOON
_____ (Mrs. Leveritt Johnson), 1867-80
Mr., Mar. 1859-19; 1867-79
Abby (Mrs. Johnson), 1865-63
Abigail, 1867-77
Amos, 1867-77
Benjamin, 1867-77
Daniel, 1867-77
J. B., 1868-10
Joel, 1867-77
Joel B., 1868-55
Joseph, 1865-62; 1867-77, 78, 79, 80; 1868-10, 55
Lydia (Mrs. Joseph Cahoon), 1867-77
Margaret (Mrs. W. O. Cahoon), 1868-55
Mary, 1867-77
Rebecca, 1867-77
Thomas, 1868-55
W. O., 1868-55
William O., 1867-77, 80
CAIRNS
Joseph, 1870-114
CAKE
Louisa (Mrs. Samuel Pennewell), 1874-100
CALDWELL
Judge, 1874-113
Mr., 1874-112
Mrs., 1874-112
C., 1865-107; 1874-72
James, 1870-54
John D., 1864-117; 1874-43
Joseph (Dr.), 1863-71; 1876-24
S. B., 1874-98; 1878-25
Samuel B. (Judge), 1863-90; 1874-59, 112; 1876-37; 1878-25
John C., 1867-103
CALL
Carlo, 1862-27
Charles, 1867-74; 1876-16, 1878-2
Cyrus (Elder), 1862-26, 27, 29
Dana C., 1862-27
Eber, 1865-5
Essex, 1862-27
Harriet (Mrs. Laughlin), 1862-27
Jo, 1862-27
Polly (Mrs. Middleton), 1862-27
Sally (Mrs. Hanes), 1862-27
Sally Cross (Mrs. Cyrus Call), 1862-27
CALLEWAY
M., 1864-111
CALLIS
William, 1868-23
CAMERON
Daniel, 1866-86
CAMP
Mr., 1868-38
Alice, Mar. 1860-31
G. H., Mar. 1860-31; 1863-4; 1868-8
James, 1868-8
John G., Mar. 1859-19; Sept. 1860-24
Lydia (Mrs.), 1870-32
CAMP continued
Samuel, 1864-56
CAMPBELL
Capt. , Sept. 1860-36
Dr., 1864-3
Major, 1861-41
Mr., 1861-8, 14; 1863-17, 1864-109
Alexander, 1864-106
Benjamin F., 1861-8
D., 1870-5
David, 1861-7; 1862-4, 94; 1867-109, 110, 111, 112, 114, 118; 1878-25
Dougal, Sept. 1860-16
George P., 1876-84, 86
George W., 1861-8
Henry C., 1861-8
Hugh A., 1862-4
J. K., June 1858-30; Nov. 1858-2; Nov. 1859-11, 12; 1865-85; 1870-5
J. N., (M.D.), June 1858-30; 1864-46, 47
James M., 1865-86
John K. 1861-8
John W., 1864-106
Levanthia W. Smith (Mrs. J. N. Campbell M.D.), 1864-47
CANADA
Hannah Van Duzen (Mrs. Nathan Canada), Mar. 1860-24; 1863-55
John, Mar. 1859-16; 1874-59
Nathan, Mar. 1860-24; 1863-55
CANBY
William, 1870-79
CANFIELD
Judge, Mar. 1860-33, 37
Mr., 1864-12; 1868-50
Mrs., 1864-11
A., 1868-48, 58
Albon, Mar. 1860-27
Augustine, Nov. 1859-38, 39, 41; Mar. 1860-29; 1868-31, 48, 58, 97, 98; 1874-106; 1876-33
B. M., Mar. 1860-30; 1863-6; 1868-31
Betsey (Mrs.), 1874-7
Burton, Nov. 1859-38; 1868-6, 31; 1876-34
Burton M., Nov. 1859-38, 41; 1868-31, 32, 33
C. C., Mar. 1860-27; 1863-4; 1868-6, 8, 30, 41, 42; 1874-12, 20, 30, 31, 37; 1876-10
C. C. (Mrs.), 1874-7
Calvert Calon, 1868-41
Clarke, 1874-59
Dennis, 1874-59
Frank W., 1874-60
H. L. (Rev.), 1874-2; 1876-62, 115, 126, 127
Herman, 1864-11
Narissa, Mar. 1860-30
CANNADY
Widow (Mrs. Eleizur Lockwood), 1865-21
CANNON
John, 1864-57, 58
Samuel, 1864-57
CAPRON
Dr., 1870-13
CAR
George, 1878-61
Samuel, 1878-61
CARAD
Jacob, 1866-68
CARE
Sophia, 1862-28

CAREY
Asenath Brooks (Mrs. Zebulon Carey), 1863-82
Zebulon, 1863-82
CARKHUFF
Mr., Sept. 1860-44
Barney, 1868-98
Barnhard, 1874-88
William, Nov. 1858-17, 18; 1874-88
CARKOFF
_____, Mar. 1859-48
CARL
Martha, 1876-4
Nathan, 1864-72
William, 1864-75, 121
CARLTON
_____, 1878-92
E. L. (Mrs. Stephen Post Jr.), 1878-110
Peter (Mrs.), 1865-71
T. (Rev.), 1878-110
Thomas (Elder), 1863-59
CARMAN
Mrs. 1876-9
Amanda (Mrs. John Day), 1870-21
Benjamin, May 1859-24
CARNEY
Mr., 1876-4
Mrs. 1876-4
John, 1864-56
CARNS
Romane, 1874-60
CARPENDER
Simeon B. (Mrs.), 1863-90
CARPENTER
_____ (Mrs. Abram Mead), 1864-70
_____ (Mrs. Joseph Washburn), 1864-72
Mr., Mar. 1860-22; 1866-116
Abner, June 1864-70
Adney C., 1864-76
Amelia, 1865-85; 1870-3
Catherine Van Ness, 1865-85; 1874-10, 93
Charles, 1863-36, 37, 41, 47
David, 1870-32
Henry, 1864-70, 71, 76; 1876-34
Jesse, 1866-116
John, 1864-64
Joseph, 1876-29
L. B. (Dr.), Sept. 1860-19
Mariah Elliott, 1866-9
R., 1864-78
Robert, June 1858-30
S. B., 1868-81
S. B. (Dr.), March 1859-9, 19; May 1859-7, 8; Nov. 1859-46; Mar. 1860-21, 38; Sept. 1860-21, 22; 1862-6; 1863-92; 1865-4, 5, 50, 79
S. C., Sept. 1860-19
Sidney, 1874-60
Simeon C., 1874-10
CARPENTIER
Mr., 1868-102
CARR
Francis, 1864-117
John, 1863-58
William, 1874-60
CARRINGTON
S. E., 1874-30, 31, 34, 37; 1876-8, 10, 11
CARROLL
S. S. (Col.), 1876-77, 79, 80, 81
CARROTHERS
Samuel, 1870-113
CARSHMER
Charlotte, 1866-88
CARSON
Hugh, 1864-64
Jacob, 1874-60, 75
N., 1864-64
William, 1864-64; 1874-60
CARTER
Major, Mar. 1859-31; Sept. 1860-36
Mr., 1865-27; 1868-60
Adelade (Mrs. Isaac Sturdevant), 1864-51
Adelaide, 1878-113
Huldah Adelaide (Mrs. Isaac Sturtevant), 1864-53
John, 1865-86; 1874-6
Lavina Hopkins (Mrs. Norman Carter), 1864-52
Lorenzo, 1866-71, 72, 73
Norman, 1864-52, 54, 55
Sarah (Mrs. Bradford Sturdevant), 1864-50
Sarah L., 1864-53
W., 1864-55
CARTWRIGHT
Charles, 1876-83
CARVER
A., 1864-55, 77
A. R., 1865-86
Aldrich, 1864-53, 55; 1876-34
Aldridge, 1864-78, 79
Amy Kniffin (Mrs. Aldrich Carver), 1864-53
Betsey (Mrs. John Carver), Mar. 1860-19
Fanny (Mrs. D. Huffman), 1864-53
Jasper, Mar. 1860-19
John, Mar. 1860-19; 1864-53; 1868-115
Jonathan, 1867-10, 11
Norman, 1876-34
Phebe (Mrs. Jacob Huffman), 1864-53
CARY
Jane, Mar. 1860-28
Joseph, Mar. 1860-28
Nancy (Mrs. Joseph Cary), Mar. 1860-28
Rebecca, Mar. 1860-28
Sally (Mrs. Seth Cary), Mar. 1860-27
Seth, Mar. 1860-27
CASE
_____, 1878-28
Squire, 1870-24
Alexander, 1863-85
Almira Walker (Mrs. Harlow Case), 1863-85
Almon, 1863-85
Andrew, 1863-85
Byron, 1863-85
Carlton, 1863-85
Caroline S., 1863-85
Caroline Weatherlow (Mrs. Lyman Case), 1862-25; 1863-85
E., 1866-9
E. S., 1867-74
Eliza (Mrs. William H. Root), 1863-85
Eugene S., 1867-3
Eunice (Mrs. Knapp), 1870-19
Eunice Tracy (Mrs. Isaac P. Case), 1864-114, 116
Francis B., 1874-105
Harlow, 1863-72, 85
Henry, 1863-85

CASE continued
I. P., 1870-19; 1876-35
Isaac P., 1863-53, 55, 56, 57, 58, 59; 1864-114, 116; 1868-81
J. P., 1863-55
Leonard, June 1858-25; 1865-75, 77
Lester, 1876-35
Lyman (Capt.), 1862-25; 1863-85
Philotha (Mrs. Town Clark), Mar. 1860-24; 1863-55; 1864-116
Rebecca Ruggles (Mrs. Lyman Case), 1863-85
Samuel, 1863-61
Sidney, 1863-85
Sophia (Mrs. Hiram Townsend), 1863-58
Stephen, 1863-61
Tracey (Dr.), 1863-57; 1864-116; 1870-32
William, 1863-85; 1870-7
CASH
Israel, 1876-28, 29
CASS
Lewis, Mar. 1859-35; 1864-117; 1865-105; 1867-10, 96, 116, 117; 1870-63
CASSELS
Prof., 1874-11
CASSIDAY
Mary (Mrs.), 1866-88
CASTELOW
John, 1876-84, 86
CASTLE
Jehiel, 1874-59
Judson, 1874-59
CASWELL
_____ (Mrs. Eleutheros Cooke), Mar. 1859-25
_____ (Mrs. Hurd), Mar. 1859-25
Calvin, 1864-7; 1870-32; 1876-16; 1878-1
D., 1878-25
David (Rev.), Mar. 1859-20, 25; 1878-25
Gilbert, 1868-63
Henry, 1876-37
Thomas, Sept. 1860-23
William H., Mar. 1859-25
CATLIN
Alexander, 1870-77
David M., 1876-86
CATON
Milo, 1876-86
CENTER
Clark (Mrs.), 1874-31
Frank B., 1876-83
CERBE
John, 1876-84, 86
CHAFFEE
_____, 1866-116
Asa, 1865-2; 1866-116
Calvin O., 1876-127
Comfort, 1866-116
Tammaso, 1876-127
CHAMBERLAIN-CHAMBERLIN
Capt., 1874-67, 72
Major, 1874-70
Mr., 1861-24; 1876-8
Mrs., 1862-3
Drussilla, 1876-127
CHAMBERLAIN-CHAMBERLIN continued
J. D., 1865-86; 1876-16, 17, 126, 127; 1878-1, 2, 3
J. W., 1874-72
J. W. (Maj.), 1874-73
Orlando, 1876-86
U. T., 1867-28
William H., 1874-60
CHAMBERS
John, 1876-4
CHAMPION
Henry, 1878-12
CHAMPLIN
Mr., 1861-8
Adonijah, 1867-109, 110, 111
CHAMPNEY
Eliza Winton (Mrs. Col. F. Champney), Nov. 1858-43
F. (Col.), Nov. 1858-43
CHANDLER
Lt., 1866-102
M.D., Nov. 1858-42
Buck, 1864-85
D., June 1858-30; Nov. 1858-1, 1863-4; 1870-28
Daniel (Senior), Nov. 1858-1, 43; 1861-25; 1870-21, 46, 48
George W. (Capt.), 1870-29
Harriet (Mrs. William H. Crane), Nov. 1858-42; 1870-46
Ira H., 1876-81
J. H., 1866-2
J. S., 1866-94
Marian Griswold (Mrs. Ebenezer Lane), 1867-49
Mary Ann Fitch (Mrs. Buck Chandler) (Mrs. Ephraim Felton), 1864-85
Sally Summers (Mrs. Daniel Chandler), Nov. 1858-43; 1861-25; 1870-28, 48
CHANNING
George G., 1868-101
William Henry, 1868-101
CHANY
John, 1864-88
CHAPIN
Capt., Mar. 1859-31; 1862-82
Mr., Nov. 1859-24; 1866-116
Giles, 1868-71
H. M., 1870-50
Henry, 1865-85; 1866-3
John P., 1865-110
Luther, 1865-46
Luther B., 1865-52
S. D., 1864-5, 6
Samuel D., 1865-86
CHAPLIN
Mr., Mar. 1859-24
Rev. Mr., 1861-47
Jonathan Edward, 1876-109
CHAPMAN
_____, Nov. 1859-13
_____, 1864-112
_____(Mrs. Richard P. Christopher), 1870-26
_____, 1862-21
_____ (Mrs.), 1864-112
Dr., 1870-115
Mrs., May 1859-21; 1866-35

CHAPMAN continued
Amy, 1870-32
C. Follet (Mrs. Chapman), Nov. 1859-13
Charles W., 1876-83
Eliza Phillips (Mrs. Chapman), 1862-21
F. M., 1870-5, 11; 1874-2
Frederick, Nov. 1859-12; 1863-70; 1865-57
J. F., 1868-12, 85
James F., Sept. 1860-21
John, Mar. 1859-15; 1864-22, 61, 62; 1870-114
Johnny, 1876-33
Nathan, Mar. 1860-25; 1862-29
O. B., 1861-15
Phoebe, Mar. 1860-41
R. (Mrs.), 1862-3
William, 1863-16
CHAPPEL
Tara, 1864-47; 1866-78
CHARLES II
King of England, June 1858-16, 17; 1862-31; 1863-66; 1867-14
CHARLES
Lorinda, 1862-22
Polly, 1862-22
CHASE
Bishop, 1876-46, 53, 55
A. B. (Capt.), 1876-36
Joseph (Mrs.), 1865-120
L. V. (Mrs.), 1865-86
L. W. (Mrs.), 1865-85
P. W., 1876-78
S. P., 1862-50, 51
Salmon P., 1864-106
William, 1868-85
CHAUNCEY
President, 1870-80
Charles, 1863-95
CHEELDS
Joseph, Mar. 1860-32
CHEENY
Charles Edward (Rev.), 1876-52
CHENWARD
John (Capt.), 1863-96
CHERRY
Adaline (Mrs. Homer Austin), 1864-43
Anna, 1876-127
B. Rick (Mrs. John Cherry), 1864-42
Berrilla, 1865-86
Berilla _____ Snow (Mrs. Reuben M. Cherry), 1864-43
Byron, 1864-43
Emma C. (Mrs. W. B. Robinson), 1864-42
Eudolphia (Mrs. T. F. Wildreth), 1864-42, 43
Eugene, 1864-43
Eunice (Mrs. C. Tayton), 1864-43
Hannah, 1867-74
Hannah Foote (Mrs. William Cherry), 1862-78; 1864-43
John, 1864-39, 42, 88; 1865-86; 1870-46
Louisa B., 1865-86
Lucinda (Mrs. I. Mitchell), 1864-43
Permelia Adams (Mrs. John Cherry), 1864-42
CHERRY continued
Phebe Minerva (Mrs. A. D. Abbott), 1864-42
Polly Merchant (Mrs. William Cherry), Mar. 1860-23
R. M., 1864-38, 42
Reuben, 1864-43
Vinton, 1864-43
William, June 1858-30; Nov. 1858-2; Mar. 1860-23; 1861-6; 1862-42, 78; 1864-38, 42, 43; 1865-86
CHESNEY
Samuel, 1865-30
CHEVOY
Henry, 1863-73
CHICHESTER
Capt., May 1859-29
Amelia (Mrs. Henry Lockwood), 1866-81
CHILD
Charles, 1876-123
Otis, Nov. 1858-15
CHILTON
James, Mar. 1860-20
Mary, Mar. 1860-20
CHOATE
Judge, 1878-66
C. B., June 1858-30; Nov. 1858-2; 1861-3; 1865-86
George N., Mar. 1860-15
George W., Mar. 1860-14, 25; 1868-80
CHRISTIE
Rev., 1866-24
James S., 1870-50
CHRISTOPHER
_____ Chapman (Mrs. Richard P. Christopher), 1870-26
P. (Dr.), Mar. 1860-22; 1863-57
Richard P., 1863-57; 1865-12, 14; 1868-44, 45; 1870-20, 26
CHURCH
Mr., 1864-12, 22
Charles, 1878-100
John, Mar. 1860-11
Pharcellus (Rev.), 1866-111
Rebecca, Mar. 1860-32
Temperance, 1878-100
Theophilus (Mrs.), 1878-100
William, 1876-86
CLAP-CLAPP
Judge, 1865-69
Mr., Nov. 1859-36
Benjamin, Mar. 1859-40
C. W. (Rev.), 1876-70
D., June 1858-41
Dean, Nov. 1858-41; 1865-86; 1866-2; 1874-21; 1876-61
H. S., 1866-2
Henry S., 1874-59
John, Mar. 1860-24
Rosetta Shelhouse (Mrs. John Clapp), Mar. 1860-24
CLARK-CLARKE
_____ Manville (Mrs. Amos Clark), 1868-34
Bishop, 1874-14
Capt., May 1859-38
Dr., Nov. 1859-41; 1874-7
Gen., 1870-56, 59

CLARK continued
Mr., Nov. 1858-19; May 1859-20, 23; Nov. 1859-46; 1864-75, 76; 1865-67; 1867-73; 1868-60
Amos, Mar. 1860-30; 1863-6;1865-85; 1868-8, 9, 34, 58
Amos (Mrs.), 1874-7; 1876-3
Andrew, 1864-52, 55
Anson (Rev.), Nov. 1859-41; 1876-50
Archibald, Nov. 1859-18
Calvin, 1870-51
Chapin R. (Rev.), 1861-46
Charles, 1876-82
Clementina (Mrs. Thomas Starr), Nov. 1858-35
D. S., Mar. 1860-31; 1863-4; 1868-85
D. S. (Mrs.), 1876-3
Daniel, 1862-9, 10, 84
Daniel L., 1878-107
David, 1874-21
David H., 1874-21
E. W. Jr., 1876-84
Eleanor C., Mar. 1860-31
Esther, 1874-101
Esther Poyer (Mrs. Lester Clark), 1862-10
George, 1866-106; 1876-86
George Rogers Clark (Gen.), Nov. 1858-7; 1870-92
Gustavus (Hon.), Nov. 1858-3
Halsey, 1865-53
Hannah Maria, 1868-33
Harriet Skinner (Mrs. Merritt Clark), Mar. 1859-15
Harmon (Heman) M., Nov. 1859-39, 40, 42; 1868-31, 33, 34, 35, 39, 41, 42, 58
J. M., 1866-87
James, June 1858-21; 1865-27, 28; 1878-13
James Jr., Mar. 1859-26
Joe, June 1858-37
Joel, June 1858-37, 39, 40
John, Mar. 1860-30; 1878-2, 100, 101
John A. (Rev.), 1876-119
John K., 1865-78
Joseph, June 1858-24; Nov. 1858-28; Nov. 1859-25; 1878-15
Lavina (Mrs. Burton Parsons) (see Clock, Lovina), 1863-81
Lester, Mar. 1859-41; 1862-10; 1865-53; 1874-36, 93, 101
Lorin, Nov. 1859-19
M. J. June 1867-74
Mason, 1865-63
Merritt, Mar. 1859-15
Michael, 1874-60
Olive (Mrs. John Laylin), Mar. 1859-37, 40; 1862-84; 1878-107
Olley Dowd (Mrs. Daniel Clark), 1862-9, 10
Patrick, 1874-60
Philothe Case (Mrs. Town Clark), Mar. 1860-24; 1864-116; 1865-86
Richard, Mar. 1860-20
Robert, 1868-109; 1870-50, 107; 1874-9
Ruth Ann, 1868-9, 85
S., 1866-99
Sally Day (Mrs. U. Clark), 1863-55
Samuel, Nov. 1859-18
Samuel (D. D.), 1865-2
Stephen, 1870-86
Town, Mar. 1860-24; 1864-71, 116

CLARK continued
U., 1863-55
Upton, 1864-71
W. R. S., 1876-84
Walter, Mar. 1860-31
William, Mar. 1859-9, 10, Nov. 1859-46
CLARY
Mrs., 1865-3; 1876-34
Daniel, Sept. 1860-42, 43; 1864-3, 32, 35
E. (Col.), 1865-79
Elihu Ward, June 1858-38, 39, 41; 1862-12; 1865-48, 79; 1868-81; 1874-20, 93; 1876-34, 60, 61, 110
Elijah, June 1858-37, 38, 39, 40, 41, 42
Elisha (Elihu), June 1858-30, 37, 38; 1862-12
G. W., Sept. 1860-2
George W., 1864-32
Homer C., 1864-32
Isaac, 1864-35
John, Mar. 1859-27
Mary Wilcox (Mrs. Daniel Clary), 1864-32
Parly (Mrs. Elihu Clary), June 1858-37, 38, 39, 41; 1865-79
Pearley (Mrs. George Douglass) (Mrs. Moses C. Sanders), June 1858-38, 42
Preoxcintha, 1864-35
Sarah (Mrs. Elijah Clary), June 1858-42
CLAVIN
John, 1874-60
CLAWSON
Clarissa, 1876-14
CLAY
Mr., June 1858-11; 1862-3; 1867-2
Henry, 1874-115
CLAYPOLE
Mr., 1866-55
CLAYPOOL
Elizabeth Cromwell (Mrs. James Claypool), 1865-121
James (Sir), 1865-121
Joseph, 1865-121
CLEAVELAND
Moses (Capt.), 1863-95
CLEAVER
Tobias, 1870-77
CLEMENS-CLEMMENS-CLEMONS
A., 1863-34
Alexander, Mar. 1859-21; 1864-123; 1878-26
John, 1876-84, 86
Myron E., 1874-60, 75
P. H., 1870-32
CLENDENIN
David, 1870-54
CLEVELAND
_____ Parker (Mrs. James Cleveland), Sept. 1860-15
Fr., 1865-101
Rev., 1863-71
Alanson, 1874-113
Esther, 1870-18
James, Sept. 1860-15; 1864-3; 1867-3; 1868-85
S., 1868-9
W. H., 1867-74
CLINE
Charles, 1864-64
John, 1864-65
Margaret, 1864-64
Mary Ann, 1864-64
Savilla, 1864-65

CLINE continued
Susan (Mrs. John Cline), 1864-65
CLINTON
DeWitt (Gov.), 1864-118; 1865-99; 1866-76; 1867-26, 43, 64; 1868-66; 1870-95
CLOCK
Family, 1866-35
Andrew, 1864-32
Archibald, 1864-31
D. H., 1870-32
Daniel, 1864-31
David, 1864-31
Elijah, 1864-31
George H., 1864-31, 35
James, 1864-32
Julia Ann (Mrs. William Sowton), 1864-32
Lovina (Mrs. Burt Parsons), 1864-32
Margaret Overhiser (Mrs. George H. Clock), 1864-31
Maria Vrooman (Mrs. Samuel Clock), 1868-80
Permelia (Mrs. William King), 1864-32
Sally (Mrs. Tower Jackson), 1864-32
Samuel, 1864-31; 1866-10; 1868-80
Sophronia (Mrs. Walter Williams), 1864-32
Timothy, 1864-31
CLOSE
Charlotte, 1863-6
Coleman, 1876-127
N. J. (Rev.), 1865-3, 86
William, 1865-27
CLOUGH
Josiah, 1878-101
Winthrop, 1878-101
CLYBOURN
Archibald, 1865-77
John H., 1865-77
COBB
Mr., 1861-25
Ahira, 1862-25; 1874-95
Dudley, 1863-61
Harriet (Mrs.), 1862-3
Henry, 1867-28
Hester C. Hill (Mrs. Ralph L. Cobb), 1862-23
J., 1863-60
Jeduthan, 1862-15, 25, 27
Ralph L., 1862-23, 25
Sally (Mrs. E. P. Hill), 1862-25, 26
COCHRAN-COCHRANE
_____, 1868-17
Charles, 1865-85
Harriet (Mrs. George Shaw), Mar. 1860-24
M. B. (Dr.), Mar. 1860-1
Samuel B., Mar. 1860-21; 1865-50; 1868-17
COCKLER
C., 1870-99
COE
_____ Smith (Mrs. Alvin Coe), Nov. 1859-43
Mr., June 1858-40
Rev., 1876-53, 94
A. B., Mar. 1860-29; 1868-8
Alvin (Rev.), June 1858-41, 42, 44; Nov. 1858-14, 17, 18, 37, 46, 47; Mar. 1859-34, 47; May 1859-21, 25, 31; Nov. 1859-12, 43; Mar. 1860-25; Sept. 1860-6, 21; 1862-29; 1863-14, 18, 69, 70, 71; 1864-29, 67, 68, 86, 104; 1865-15,
COE continued
Alvin (Rev.) continued, 1865-57; 1866-24; 1868-70, 71; 1874- 88, 89, 109; 1876-63; 1878-16, 17, 34
Artemesia, 1868-7
Bella, Mar. 1860-29; 1868-34, 58
Danvers Luther, Nov. 1858-46
Emily Maria, Nov. 1858-46
Harvey (Rev.), Nov. 1859-43
Henry, Mar. 1860-29
Israel, 1868-8
Julius Seward, Nov. 1858-46; Nov. 1859-46; 1865-85
Luther, Nov. 1858-14, 46, 47, 48; Mar. 1859-34, 47; Nov. 1859-46, 47; Mar. 1860-24; 1867-86
M. M., 1868-85
Mary Jane, Nov. 1858-46; Nov. 1859-46
Persis Sophia, Nov. 1858-46
Seymour Barney, Nov. 1858-46; Nov. 1859-46
Sophia Barney (Mrs. Luther Coe) (Mrs. Rouse Bly), Nov. 1858-46; Nov. 1859-46; Mar. 1860-24; 1867-86
COFENBURY
Judge, 1862-84
Andrew, June 1858-25; 1876-99
COFFIN
Betsey (Mrs. Samuel Wallace), 1870-54
COFFINBURY
(Mr.), Sept. 1860-43; 1876-40
Andrew, 1876-99
George, 1870-113
COGGSHALL
W. T. (Hon), 1866-106, 109
COGSWELL
B. S., 1876-14
Clarissa Pollock (Mrs. William Cogswell), Mar. 1860-24
Helen M., 1876-14
William, Mar. 1860-24
COIT
Capt., 1867-2, 5
A. J., 1865-86; 1874-42, 46
Andrew, 1874-20
Daniel L., Mar. 1860-33, 38
David L, Mar. 1860-33, 37, 38
E. L. (Capt.), 1866-2
Emily A., 1865-86
Eureka, 1874-60
H. H., 1863-46
Henry H., Mar. 1860-38
Joseph, Mar. 1860-32, 33
Joshua, Mar. 1860-32
Phebe J., (Mrs.), 1865-5
COKER
Haviour, Mar. 1860-37
COLE
_____, 1863-68
Gen., 1864-43
Miss (Mrs. William Greenfield), 1864-43
Mr., Mar. 1859-45; 1864-88
Rev., 1863-71
Alexander, 1876-86
Alva (Rev.), 1874-15
Asher, Sept. 1860-40, 42, 44; 1868-98
Bethuel, 1874-36, 93
Betsy (Mrs. Walter Hoyt), 1864-43
Celia (Mrs. Downs), 1861-3
Cyrus (Dr.), 1864-29, 35
David, 1862-9, 1865-53

COLE continued
Edward, 1867-73
Edward L., Mar. 1859-41; 1864-113; 1865-52
Elizabeth Brown, (Mrs. Cole), 1863-68
Elizabeth Desang (Mrs. Cyrus Cole), 1864-29
Hannah, 1865-86
Hannah Willson (Mrs. Lemon Cole), 1865-52
Henry, Sept. 1860-16, 19, 21
Hilos, 1865-53
Irving, 1874-59, 74
J., 1864-8
Jacob, 1865-86
James, May 1859-16; Sept. 1860-40, 43, 44; 1863-4; 1874-56
Jeremiah, 1862-5; 1864-4; 1865-86; 1868-5
Jeremiah (Gen.), 1876-71
Jeremy, Mar. 1859-37; 1864-22
Julia A., 1865-86
Lemon, 1864-113; 1865-52
Levi, Mar. 1859-37; May 1859-17, 19, 20, 26, 28; Nov. 1859-43, 45; Sept. 1860-39, 40, 41, 42, 45; 1864-22, 32; 1865-50
Lewis, Mar. 1859-48
Lyman, Sept. 1860-40, 44
M. K., 1863-4; 1874-118
Mahala (Mrs. J. Cole), 1864-8
Manley K., 1866-94
Manly, Sept. 1860-40, 44; 1864-22
Mary L. (Mrs. Dr. T. M. Cook), 1864-29
Mary Pancost (Mrs. Edward Cole), 1865-53
Miner, Nov. 1858-15; Mar. 1859-37; Sept. 1860-40, 41, 44; 1865-86; 1867-2; 1874-14, 88
Orrin, 1874-60
Philena Johnson (Mrs. James Cole), 1863-4
Sally Dillingham (Mrs. Edward Cole), 1867-73
COLEGROVE
H. C., 1858-39
COLEMAN
_____, 1864-112
Absalom, May 1859-33; 1868-74, 84
Asa (Dr.), 1868-24
Betsey, 1865-86
George, 1876-35
Latitia (Mrs. William Robinson), 1865-83
COLERICK
Mr., 1861-9
COLES
Edward, 1864-78
H. (Prof.), Nov. 1859-41
COLGROVE
A. C. 1874-101
COLLIER
Mr., 1870-77, 78
Mrs., 1874-51
George (Commodore), June 1858-20
George W., 1876-84
COLLINS
_____, 1876-21, 35
Mrs. 1876-21, 22
A., Mar. 1859-1
Betsy, 1876-21
Betsy Ward (Mrs. Isaac Collins), May 1859-45
Isaac, May 1859-45; 1863-70; 1876-21
James D., Nov. 1859-10, 1865-86
Mary Ann Strong (Mrs. James D. Collins), Nov. 1859-10
COLLVER-COLVER
Lt., 1874-72, 73, 74
Frank B., 1874-60
J. M., 1868-12
COLT
Col., 1867-115
Judah, 1866-50
R. E., 1870-32
COLTON
_____ Allen (Mrs. Hamilton Colton), 1867-90
Hamilton, 1867-90
COLVIN
George, Mar. 1859-1; Sept. 1860-4
COMPTON
Betsey (Mrs. David Sherarts), 1863-81
Christina Sherarts (Mrs. Jacob Compton), 1863-79
Jacob, 1863-79
COMSTOCK
_____, 1878-82
_____ Austin (Mrs. Philo Comstock), 1868-100
Esquire, May 1859-31
Mr., 1864-24; 1876-1
Abijah, June 1858-33, 45; Mar. 1859-38, 41; May 1859-16, 17, 19, 25, 26, 27, 28, 31, 47; Mar. 1860-23; Sept. 1860-40, 42; 1862-9; 1864-87, 100; 1868-10, 107, 1870-87, 88; 1874-80; 1876-33, 92
Ansom, 1863-16
E. A., 1870-32
Esther Frost (Mrs. Abijah Comstock), May 1859-16
Nathan Sellick, June 1858-33; Sept. 1860-4; 1868-10, 105; 1870-88; 1876-33
Oliver, 1868-85
P., 1870-8
Phebe, May 1859-25
Philo, Mar. 1859-41; May 1859-26, 28; Sept. 1860-4, 7, 42; 1868-10, 100, 105; 1870-32; 1874-88; 1876-33
Sellick, 1876-33
Thomas, 1868-105
CONANT
Beulah (Mrs. Peter Brown), 1865-82
D. M. (Rev.), 1867-5
Susan, 1865-71
W. M. (Rev.), 1870-40
CONAWAY
James, Mar. 1860-21
CONDON
Mr., 1870-113
CONE
Mr., 1866-10, 116
G. G. (Mrs.), 1874-92
Lester, Mar. 1859-22
Sylvester, Mar. 1859-21; 1878-26
Thomas, 1878-113
CONERVAY
James, 1858-44
CONGER
Chauncey S., 1876-103
Cornelius D., 1874-60
David, 1862-9; 1876-123
E. (Miss), Nov. 1859-13
Elijah S., 1874-59, 74

CONGER continued
Enoch (Rev.), June 1858-30; Nov. 1859-13; Sept. 1860-22; 1863-14; 1865-85; 1866-3, 24, 34, 36; 1867-27, 41; 1876-63, 102, 103, 104, 105
Ester, 1865-85
S. B., 1866-9
Sally, 1876-123
Sally Parker (Mrs. David Conger), 1862-9
CONKLIN
Charles, 1867-4
J., 1863-78
Jacob, 1867-4
Polly Austin (Mrs. J. Conklin), 1863-78
Shadrach (Mrs.), 1874-103
Willis W., 1874-60
CONKLING
Mrs., 1866-9
CONLAN
_____ 1876-80
CONNELL
John, 1870-51
CONNER
Charles E., 1876-83
Henry, 1867-10, 11
John W., 1876-83
CONVERSE
Charles, 1865-21, 85; 1868-2
Hannah S., 1865-85
S., 1870-5
W. F., 1865-85; 1870-5; 1878-63
COOK-COOKE
_____(Mrs. William G. Morehead), 1865-8
_____(Mrs. William H. Mills 2nd), 1867-117
_____ Caswell (Mrs. Eleutheros Cooke), Mar. 1859-25
_____ DeZang (Mrs. Surgeon Cooke), 1865-57
_____ Townsend (Mrs. Pitt Cooke), 1867-115
_____, 1864-37
Capt., 1867-14
Mr., Mar. 1859-35; 1876-37, 38
Asaph, 1866-35, 37, 40
Asaph Jr., 1866-35
Augustus, Mar. 1860-36, 37, 39, 40, 41, 42; 1867-6, 74
Beckwith, Mar. 1860-22, 36, 38; 1865-50
Brazilda, Mar. 1860-41
C. C., 1876-84
E., 1865-2; 1878-26
E. W., 1863-4; 1865-6; 1876-77
Ebenezer, 1868-76
Eleanor (Mrs. Edwin Rixford), Mar. 1860-40
Eleutheros (Hon.), June 1858-1, 25, 30, 31, 47, 48; Nov. 1858-1, 2, 3; Mar. 1859-16, 19, 21, 22, 25; Mar. 1860-1, 2; 1862-6, 87; 1863-17; 1865-5, 8, 86; 1866-56; 1867-108, 117; 1868-81; 1870-43; 1874-112, 115; 1876-36, 37; 1878-25, 28
Erastus, Mar. 1859-20; Mar. 1860-40; 1866-35; 1867-117; 1878-25
Francis, Mar. 1860-20
G. A. (Mrs.), 1865-85
H. D., June 1858-47, 48; Nov. 1858-1
Henry D., 1861-14; 1865-85; 1870-42
Israel, 1866-35
COOK-COOKE continued
James W., 1867-117
Jay, 1866-65; 1867-117; 1874-14
John, Mar. 1860-20, 21, 23
Joseph, Nov. 1858-13
Julia (Mrs. Capt. Melvin Johnson), Mar. 1860-40
L., 1878-26
Lawyer, 1870-60
Lucy (Mrs. John Earley), Mar. 1860-40
Mansfield, Mar. 1860-41
Martha (Mrs. Thomas Mannahan), Mar. 1860-40, 41
Martha Fletcher (Mrs. Augustus Cook), Mar. 1860-39, 41
Mary (Miss), 1865-12
Mary (Mrs. John Beatty), 1865-12
Mary (Mrs. Orrin Whitney), Mar. 1860-40
Mary Eddy, 1866-82
Mary L. Cole (Mrs. T. M. Cook), 1864-29
O., 1878-26
Cooke, O. & L., 1878-26
Pitt, 1867-115
T. M. (Dr.), 1861-4, 6; 1864-29
Seth A., 1876-84
Surgeon, 1865-57
Wyatt, June 1858-39, 41; 1865-86; 1867-4
COOLEY
James, 1866-61
R. (Rev.), 1862-3
COOLIGE
Mr., Sept. 1860-16
COON
Caroline, Mar. 1860-30
W., Mar. 1860-30
COONER
Nancy Olmstead (Mrs. Ransom Cooner), Mar. 1860-25
Ransom, Mar. 1860-25
COONS
Col., 1876-81
COOPER
Mr., 1870-74
Anson, 1863-81; 1876-111
Phoebe Pelton (Mrs. Anson Cooper), 1863-81
T. C. (Rev.), 1878-27
COPUS
Mr., 1862-84
CORBETT- CORBET
Aaron C., 1868-81
Anson C., Sept. 1860-19
COREY-CORY
_____ Barber (Mrs. Wanton Corey), 1870-22
Abram, 1864-64
Alzina Day (Mrs. John Corey), 1870-21
Benjamin, 1870-21
Elizabeth (Mrs. Ransom McClave), 1870-22
Hannah (Mrs. Daniel Higgins), 1870-21
John, 1863-54; 1870-20, 21, 1876-35, 36
Martha Ann Munson (Mrs. Benjamin Corey), 1870-21
Mary McConnell (Mrs. John Corey), 1870-21
Phebe (Mrs. Ansel Barber), 1870-21
Phebe Hendryx (Mrs. John Corey), 1870-21
Polly (Mrs. John Day), 1870-21
Wanton, 1870-22
CORKINS
Leah (Mrs. John Beardsley), Nov. 1858-40
CORNELL
Rev., 1865-1

CORNELL continued
A. M. (Mrs.), 1878-113
CORNVALL
Richard, 1864-109; 1868-45
Sarah (Mrs. Samuel Wood), 1865-58
CORRY
John, 1870-20
CORWIN
Rev. Mr., 1874-25
M. A. (Mrs.), 1874-90
Mary Ann, 1878-98
Samuel, 1874-31
Thomas, 1864-106
COTGROVE
Mr., 1870-113
COTHREN
William, June 1858-25
COTHRIN
Mr., 1864-23
COTTON
Capt., 1878-83
Joshua (Capt.), 1878-17
Joshua T. (Capt.), June 1858-23, 24; Mar. 1859-5; May 1859-39, 40, 41, 42, 43, 44; 1865-57; 1870-88
COUCH
Judge, 1864-85
James L., Mar. 1860-38, 43
Lyman, 1864-29
Simon, 1878-77
Thomas, 1864-29; 1878-77
COULTER
H. R. (Hon.), 1868-66
Sarah Stiles (Mrs. H. R. Coulter), 1868-66
COUTERMARSH
_____, 1876-21
COVELL
Aura, 1865-21
Harvey, 1865-11, 12, 13, 21, 23; 1868-44
W. R., 1865-4, 85
COVERT
B., Mar. 1860-30
COWDRY
Col., 1864-12
COWDERY
M. F., June 1864-3, 123; 1867-57; 1878-28
COWEL-COWELL
Betsey (Mrs. Godfrey), 1864-50
Burton, 1864-50
Cordelia M. Beach (Mrs. Isaac Cowell), 1864-50
Daniel, 1864-50
Isaac, 1864-50
Jane (Mrs. Asa Tyler), 1864-50
John, Sept. 1860-16
Lorinda (Mrs. Stebbins), 1864-50
Norah, 1864-50
Phillip S., Sept. 1860-14, 16
William, 1864-50
COWLES
Mr., 1874-58; 1876-53
Mrs., 1874-57
Alfred, 1865-111, 112
Betsey M., 1874-57
Edwin W. (Dr.), Sept. 1861-35
Giles H. (Rev.), 1865-70; 1874-57
Henry, 1878-28
Joseph B., 1874-58
COWLES continued
Lyman B., 1874-56
Rufus, 1876-61
S. (Attorney), 1865-52
Samuel, June 1858-24
W. E., 1874-57
COX
_____ (Ex-Gov.), 1868-26
Samuel, 1866-35
COYTAZINE
Esquire, 1864-66
CRACKSTON
John, Mar. 1860-20
John Jr., Mar. 1860-20
CRADDOCK
Gov., 1870-112
CRAFT
Edward, 1863-3
CRAIG
Alfred T. (Capt.), 1876-78, 80, 82
Isaac, 1874-9
CRAIN
John A., 1870-93
CRAMER
Mr., 1865-105
Jane (Mrs. Walter Cramer), Mar. 1860-30
Walter, Mar. 1860-30
CRAMPTON
Mr., 1861-22
Benjamin, 1863-57
CRANCH
C. P. 1878-68
CRANDAL-CRANDALL-CRANDLE
Mr., 1868-49
Caroline Sherarts (Mrs. Charles Crandall), 1863-81
Charles, 1863-81
Martha Warner (Mrs. Miner M. Crandle), Mar. 1860-25
Miner M., Mar. 1860-25
CRANE
_____ Ingham (Mrs. Simeon M. Crane), Nov. 1858-42
_____ Rockwell (Mrs. Simeon M. Crane), Nov. 1858-42
Mr., Nov. 1859-31; Mar. 1860-22; 1861-14, 22
Ann (Mrs. G. G. Baker M. D.), Nov. 1858-42
C., Nov. 1858-42
Edward, Nov. 1858-42
Harriet Chandler (Mrs. William F. Crane), Nov. 1858-42; 1870-46
Joel, (Dr.), Nov. 1858-40, 41, 42; Nov. 1859-38; 1861-18, 20; 1868-48; 1870-46, 48
Clive Mitchell (Mrs. Joel Crane), Nov. 1858-42; 1870-46
Simeon M., Nov. 1858-42; 1861-25; 1863-7
W. H., 1866-4; 1870-12
William H., June 1858-30; Nov. 1858-1, 4, 38, 41, 42; 1865-86; 1868-2; 1870-13, 46, 47
CRAWFORD
A., Mar. 1860-27, 28, 30
Alexander, Mar. 1860-28
Ally Jane, Mar. 1860-27
J., 1862-29
John, Mar. 1859-41; 1864-43
Joseph, 1862-85; 1864-42, 43; 1865-85

CRAWFORD continued
Patty, Mar. 1860-28
CREIGHTON
William, 1870-54
CRIPPEN-CRIPPIN
Esquire, 1878-25
Laura Harrington, (Mrs. Stephen Crippin), Mar. 1860-24
Rebecca (Mrs. Hugh McPhorson), Mar. 1859-21, 23; Mar. 1860-23
Stephen, Mar. 1859-21; Mar. 1860-23, 24; 1864-3; 1865-45
CRITTENDEN
Mr., Sept. 1860-37
C. C., 1868-85
George R., Sept. 1860-16, 19
CROCKER
_____, 1866-116
Deacon, Nov. 1859-34
Betsey (Mrs. Uriah Hawley), 1861-23
Mary (Mrs. Charles Whittlesey), 1861-26
Rowland, 1866-116
CROGHAN
Col., 1876-107
Major, Mar. 1859-27; 1867-72
CROMWELL
Elizabeth (Mrs. James Claypool), 1865-121
Oliver, 1865-120, 1870-80
CRONINGER
David, 1864-63, 64
Elizabeth Upp (Mrs. Jonathan Croninger), 1864-63
Hannah, 1864-64
J., Nov. 1858-2
Jacob, 1864-63, 64, 65, 66
Jonathan, 1864-63, 64
Lydia, 1864-64
Susan, 1864-64
CRONK
Leonard C., 1876-86
CROPPER
C., 1866-87
CROSBY
Jeremiah M., 1866-3
Miranda, 1861-48
William, June 1858-31; 1862-5; 1874-14
CROSISS
Moses (Capt.), 1870-97
CROSS
Charles, 1878-25
James, 1874-60
Sally,(Mrs. Cyrus Call), 1862-27
CROUSE
Samuel, 1876-84, 86
CROW-CROWE
Lucene Parker, Mar. 1860-47
Lucina, 1867-4, 74
R., 1867-4
Robert, 1867-74, 88
CROXFORD
Edward T., 1876-86
CROZIER
Mary E. Brooks (Mrs. Philander Crozier), 1863-82
Philander, 1863-82
CRUICKSHANK
_____, 1864-109
CUDDEBACK
_____ Davis (Mrs. James J. Cuddeback), 1863-80
_____ Hammond (Mrs. Amos Cuddeback), 1863-80
Amos, 1863-80
Emily (Mrs. George Stone), 1863-80
Fanny (Mrs. Allen Pelton), 1863-80, 81
Hannah (Mrs. Wright Meeker), 1863-80
Hannah (Mrs. James Cuddeback), 1863-87
Hiram, 1863-80
J. J., 1866-4
James, June 1858-30; Mar. 1860-3; 1861-3; 1863-73, 80, 87; 1865-86; 1866-68; 1870-12
James C., 1862-2
James J., June 1858-30; Nov. 1858-1, 3, 39; Mar. 1860-2; 1863-80
Jane, 1874-16, 21, 93, 95
Jane (Mrs. Curtis), 1863-80
Jane (Mrs. Peter Cuddeback), 1863-79, 80, 87
Mary (Polly) (Mrs. George Shererts Jr.), 1863-79, 80
Nathan, 1863-79, 80
Norman, 1863-80
Paulina, 1863-80
Permilla, 1863-80
Peter, Nov. 1858-39; Mar. 1860-2; 1863-72, 73, 79, 80, 87; 1874-16, 21, 95
Polly Sherarts (Mrs. Sylvester Cuddeback), 1863-79
Rachel Sherarts (Mrs. Nathan Cuddeback), 1863-79, 80
Rhoda (Mrs. Daniel Stannard), 1863-80
Sallie, (Mrs. Russel Mason), 1863-80
Sarah, 1863-80
Sylvester, 1863-79
CULLATON
Mr., 1861-14
CULLEN
Richard J. (Lt.), 1867-105
CULP
C. (Mrs.), 1865-85
CULVER
_____ Ray (Mrs. Oliver Culver), 1865-60
Mr., 1864-75
Benjamin T., 1876-77
E., Nov. 1858-2
E. C., 1876-84
Oliver, 1865-59, 60
Sarah Carl (Mrs. Culver), 1864-121
CUMINGS-CUMMINGS
_____, 1870-24
Mr., 1870-24
Alfred, May 1859-20
David, 1865-11
Nathan, Sept. 1860-20
Sally Hendryx, 1870-24
William G., 1874-59
William L., 1866-87
CUMMINS
Elizabeth (Mrs. David Stiles), 1868-66
Jacob, Mar. 1860-22, 23
Senith Vanorman (Mrs. Jacob Cummins), Mar. 1860-23

CUNNING
James, 1866-88
CUNNINGHAM
Asa, 1876-96
Cyrus, 1865-118
Hiram May, 1876-95
J. F., 1866-88
J. O., 1876-95
Layton, 1876-95, 96
Perry, 1876-96
Sally, 1876-96
Warren, 1874-75
CUPPY
F. P., 1865-117
John, 1865-117
CURDY
Mr., Sept. 1860-16
Aurelius A., 1876-83
Jay L., 1876-81
CURTIS-CURTISS
_____, 1863-80
Mr., Mar. 1860-29; Sept. 1860-43
Alanson J., 1868-74
C., 1867-68
C. L., May 1859-33
Charles, 1864-48, 50, 52
Daniel, 1876-21
Daniel F., 1863-67; 1865-48, 57; 1876-21, 82
Ebenezer, 1863-2; 1867-26
Eliza, 1868-36
Emeline, Mar. 1860-29
Fanny, 1864-50
Fanny (Mrs. Kimball Beach), 1864-50; 1878-99
Frederick, 1864-50
George W., 1864-53, 54
H. A., May 1859-33; 1868-74, 85
Harriet, 1864-50
Harriet L. Beach (Mrs. Rollin Curtiss), 1864-50
Harvey, 1863-67; 1876-21
Hiram A., Nov. 1858-1; May 1859-33, 35; 1868-74, 84; 1876-86
Horace, 1864-50
Hosmer, June 1858-25
Hudson T., 1876-86
Ira, 1868-81
Irena, 1864-54
Isaac, Nov. 1859-41
Isaac (Dr.), 1868-41
Isaac (Rev.), Nov. 1859-41; Mar. 1860-28
J. (Mrs.), 1865-86
J. C., 1874-2
J. C. Jr., 1861-5; 1864-9; 1865-86
J. W., 1868-74
Jane Cuddeback (Mrs. Curtis), 1863-80
John, 1861-3
John D., 1876-86
Joseph, June 1858-30; Nov. 1858-1, 4; May 1859-31, 35, 36; 1863-7; 1865-85; 1868-4, 5, 6, 73, 99; 1870-11; 1874-20, 93
Joseph C., 1874-20, 93
Josiah, Mar. 1859-9, 16; Nov. 1859-46
Jotham W., 1868-74, 84
Moses, 1864-7
Norman, 1866-94
Orlando E., 1874-7, 10
Orlando F., 1874-92, 94
Polly (Mrs. Alex Pierce), June 1858-38; 1865-79; 1867-23, 26
CURTIS-CURTISS continued
Rachel, 1864-55
Rollin, 1864-50
Russell, Mar. 1859-9
Susan (Mrs. Minot Pierce), 1868-41
William L., 1868-85
CUSHING
James V., 1866-96
Nathaniel (Col.), 1866-96
CUSHMAN
Mary Allerton (Mrs. Thomas Cushman), Mar. 1860-19
Thomas (Elder), Mar. 1860-19
CUTLER
_____, 1868-110
Judge, 1870-107
Rev. Dr., 1870-62
Manasseh (Dr.), 1870-108
W. P. (Col.), 1866-91
CUTTER
Ephraim (Judge), 1866-92
Manassa (Dr.), 1866-92
CUTTS
John, 1870-110
CUYLER
Theo. L. (Rev.), 1865-60

DAGGETT
D. C., 1876-78, 81
Daniel C., 1876-81
David (Hon.), 1862-35
Napthali (Rev.), June 1858-20
DAILEY-DAILY-DALY
James, 1864-64; 1870-32
Jeff, 1876-83
John, 1876-83
Louisa, 1866-87
Mahala, 1862-28; 1876-23
Mahala (Mrs. Jonathan S. Sprague), 1863-69; 1876-23
Moses, 1868-53
Phebe, 1862-28
Sarah H., 1870-32
DAKE
Dr., 1866-74
Arnold, Mar. 1860-22
DAKER
Dr., 1866-74
DALA
Phoebe (Mrs. James Minges), Mar. 1860-24
DALE
Mrs., 1863-68, 69
Owen, 1866-35
DALTON
Michael, 1876-82
DANA
D. H., 1868-85
George, 1866-96
William, 1866-92
DANFORTH
Aro, 1874-21
Robert S., 1865-86
DANIEL-DANIELS
_____, Mar. 1860-12
Mr., Mar. 1859-27; 1867-68
George O., 1865-86; 1874-15; 1878-25
Jeremiah, 1863-67, 70; 1876-22
O. G., 1876-78

DANIELS-DANIEL continued
Pamela Downing (Mrs. Jeremiah Daniels), 1863-67
Philo, 1862-26
Smith, 1862-26
Thomas, 1862-26
Titus, 1862-26
DANKAY
_____, 1878-16
DANKIRK
J. B., 1870-116
DARBY
Perry, 1867-45
DARE
Amanias, 1866-97
Virginia, 1866-97
DARKE
George A., 1874-59
DARLING
Mr., Mar. 1860-22; 1864-32; 1868-76
Rev. Mr., 1865-67
Elizabeth, 1863-64
George M., 1876-59
Isaac, Mar. 1859-22, 24; 1864-8; 1868-81
J. M., 1865-86
Joseph, 1863-60
Joseph Banks, 1878-101
Samuel, May 1859-17
DARLINGTON
William M., 1874-9
DARLY
Phebe (Mrs. James Mingus), Nov. 1858-35
DARROW
Mr., 1870-99
Rev., 1866-72
A. (Rev.), 1861-43
George, 1870-100, 101
Nancy Smith (Mrs. Zadock Darrow), 1862-20
Zadock, 1862-20
DART
George, 1876-86
J., Mar. 1860-27
DASCOM
Henry, Mar. 1860-45, 46, 48
DASCOMB
H., 1864-85
DAVEAU
Mr., 1870-75
DAVENPORT
Mr., 1868-17
Rev., 1866-19
DAVID
Royal N., Nov. 1859-46
Silas, Nov. 1858-32
DAVIDSON
J. N., 1865-104
DAVIS
_____, 1878-78, 93
_____ (Mrs. James J. Cuddeback), 1863-80
Lt., 1874-70, 72
Mrs., Nov. 1858-39
A. A., 1876-61
Asher A. (Rev.), 1876-61, 62
Bartlett, 1863-7; 1865-2, 86
C. P. (Mrs.), 1874-31
Eliza (Mrs. Franklin Pelton), 1863-81
George, 1868-6[illegible]
DAVIS continued
George S., 1876-86
Henry Winter, 1874-22
J. S., 1870-32; 1874-31, 32
John, Mar. 1859-24; 1864-28, 30
John S., 1864-30
Joshua B., 1870-32
Keziah (Mrs.), 1870-8
Leah (Mrs. William Baker), 1864-41
M. A. (Mrs.), 1865-86
Maria (Mrs. Ira Parsons), 1863-81
S. (Major), 1876-83
DAWES
William, 1863-6
DAWSON
H. B., 1874-9
J. B., 1878-5
DAY
Mr., 1865-67; 1867-78
Widow, 1870-21
A., 1864-41
Alzina (Mrs. John Corey), 1870-21
Amanda Carman (Mrs. John Day), 1870-21
Barnard, 1864-39
Charles, 1864-64
David, 1876-98
E. W., 1864-37
Eleizor, 1864-63, 64, 66
Eliphalet W., Mar. 1859-41; 1864-39, 40
Eliza, 1864-64
Eliza (Mrs.)James McManigal), 1864-65
Eunice (Mrs. John Hendryx), 1864-112; 1870-24
George, 1864-64
James, 1864-64
Jeremiah, 1864-11
John, 1863-55; 1864-39; 1870-21
Josiah, 1863-55, 56
Norman, 1867-80; 1868-56
Oliver, Mar. 1860-9
Polly Corey (Mrs. John Day), 1870-21
S., Sept. 1860-36
Sally (Mrs. U. Clark), 1863-55
Samuel, 1863-56, 57
Samuel (Dr.), 1863-56, 57; 1864-112; 1870-24
Sarah, 1864-7
Sylvester, 1870-21
William, 1864-64
Wilson, 1874-60
DAYE
Stephen, 1865-98
DAYTON
Abram, 1870-20
DEAN
_____, 1868-19
Dr., 1862-4
Amelia (Mrs. William Page), 1864-102
Benjamin, 1870-51
Deborah (Mrs. Aaron Rowland), 1868-99
George A., 1876-10
H. (Mrs.), 1868-11
Jerry, 1863-37, 45
Joseph (Mrs.), 1868-13
L. C. (Mrs.), 1867-74
R. C., 1867-6, 74
Samuel C., 1876-8[illegible]
William, 1878-12, 27

DEBOW
Hugh, 1874-60
DECKER
Jacob, 1876-14
Orry, 1874-60, 75
Simon, 1865-86
DEEL
David, 1874-47
DEELY
Benjamin E., 1874-61
DEFOREST
Jane O., 1876-110
DEGRAFF
Abram, Mar. 1860-42
DEHASS
Prof., Mar. 1860-1
DELACHAPPELLE
_____, Nov. 1859-15
DELAMATER
_____ (Mrs. Martin Merry), 1867-90
Elizabeth, 1868-13
Elizabeth (Mrs. Nicholas Delamater), 1868-93
DELANCEY
Capt., 1876-85
DELANY
William (Lt.), 1876-77, 79
DELGARN
_____, 1863-67; 1865-57
DELIS
Lewis, 1874-44
DEMICK
Augustus R., 1865-48
DEMING
_____, Mar. 1859-27
Jabez, Mar. 1859-37, 38, 39, 40, 42; 1874-36, 93
Rebecca, 1864-113; 1865-53
Rebecca Whitmore (Mrs. Jabez Deming), Mar. 1859-40
DEMMING
Julius, 1870-77
DEMON-DEMOND-DEMUND
Benjamin, Nov. 1858-41
I. S. (Rev.), 1868-71
Isaac S., Sept. 1860-6
John B., Mar. 1859-1, 45
Sally Abbott (Mrs. John B. Demund), Mar. 1859-1; May 1859-45; 1867-90
William, Sept. 1860-23
DENCKE
Christian Frederick (Rev.), June 1858-43; Mar. 1860-14; Sept. 1860-3; 1868-70
DENISON
William Jr., 1864-106
DENMAN
Mr., 1870-30
Mrs., 1870-30
Ella Ann, Mar. 1860-31
John, 1878-101, 102
M., 1867-6
Martin, 1866-2; 1867-8, 83, 85; 1874-117
Mary Jane, Mar. 1860-29
Samuel, Mar. 1860-29
Sarah Ann, Mar. 1860-29
William, Mar. 1860-31
DENNIS
J. B., 1866-88
J. M., 1870-51
DENNIS continued
Jacob, 1876-84, 86
DENNISON
Polly, Sept. 1860-6; 1868-70
DENTON
Elias, 1865-83; 1868-9, 85
Eliza, 1868-9
Hannah Fosdick, 1868-84
Jabez, 1868-84
Mary Ferman, 1868-84
Rachel (Mrs. Jabez Denton), 1868-84
Wilbor, 1868-84
William, 1868-84
DENVERS
Lydia, 1866-87
DEPUY
Herman G. (Col.), 1876-77, 79
John W., 1876-77, 78, 82
DERR
George R., 1876-83
Philander, 1876-83
Samuel A. (Lt.), 1876-84, 86
DERROW
Nathan B. (Rev.), 1865-69, 70
DESANG (SEE DEZANG)
Elizabeth (Mrs. Cyrus Cole), 1864-29
DESHON
John, 1863-95
DETLEFS
Jacob, 1874-60, 75
DEVOE
Levi, 1876-124
DEVOL
Capt., 1868-24
Alpha, 1866-96
Gilbert (Judge), 1866-96
Wanton, 1866-96
DEVOUE
Mr., 1863-67
DEWALDT
A. J., 1876-10
DEWALT
Joseph, 1876-82
DEWEY
Mr., 1874-104
G. S., 1868-11
John F., 1865-86; 1874-90, 103
John Fairchild, 1874-103
Oneida, 1868-85
Roger, 1868-11
Sally Smith (Mrs. Silas Dewey), Mar. 1860-25; 1866-75
Silas, Mar. 1860-25; 1866-75
DEWITT
Anna Hendryx (Mrs. Benjamin DeWitt), 1870-24
Benjamin, 1870-20, 24
Gregory, 1876-86
James, 1865-86
DEWOLF
D. F., 1876-72
DEXTER
H. M. (Rev.), 1862-95
Henry, 1866-103
Jane, 1864-44
Julius, 1870-50
Melvin, 1864-44
Phila (Mrs. Walter Branch), 1864-44; 1878-100
Samuel, 1866-102

DEYO
S. F. (Mrs.), 1863-8
DEZANG (See DeSang)
_____, (Mrs. Cooke), 1865-57
Mrs., 1866-75
Elizabeth Brown (Mrs. George DeZang), 1865-57
George, 1865-57
DEZO
William H., 1870-32
DIBBLE
Annis (Mrs. Almon Ruggles), 1863-83
Ez., 1863-83
Ezra, 1867-95
DICKEY
Patrick, 1870-108
DICKERMAN
_____, 1863-81
Sarah Parsons (Mrs. Dickerman), 1863-81
DICKERSON
Capt., 1852-14
DICKEY
_____ Myers (Mrs. Thomas Dickey), 1864-34
Thomas, 1864-28, 34
DICKINSON
_____, Mar. 1860-39
Family, 1862-81
E., Mar. 1860-39; 1874-37; 1876-10, 16; 1878-2
Edward F. (Lt.), 1876-77, 78
Erastus, 1874-20, 30
William, 1865-12
DICKSON
_____, 1863-78
James, 1863-61
Nancy Austin (Mrs. Dickson), 1863-78
DIEM
_____, 1878-93
DILL
Mr., 1867-115
DILLE
Asa, 1862-79, 80
David, 1862-79
Isaac, 1866-13, 14
Samuel, 1866-69
DILLINGHAM
_____ 1878-92
Adelia, 1867-73
Amanda Page (Mrs. Henry Dillingham), Mar. 1860-24; 1864-102; 1867-73
Ann, 1867-71
Betsy, 1867-71, 73
Clarissa, 1867-71, 73
Clarissa Olcott (Mrs. John Dillingham), 1867-70
Comfort, 1867-71
Esther, 1867-71
Fannie (Mrs. Amos Felt), 1867-71, 73
Hannah, 1867-71
Hannah Hicox (Mrs. John Dillingham), 1867-71
Harriet, 1867-73
Henry, Mar. 1860-24; 1864-102; 1867-70, 72, 73
John, 1862-5, 40; 1865-12; 1867-6, 70, 71, 72, 73; 1868-43, 44, 98
King, 1867-71
DILLINGHAM continued
Lyman, 1867-73
Olcott, 1867-71
Polly, 1867-71
Rebecca, 1867-73
Sally, 1867-71
Sally (Mrs. Edward Cole), 1867-71, 73
DIMICK
Asa, 1861-14
W. B., 1866-94
DIMM
Thomas (Rev.), 1867-74; 1870-2
DIMON
_____ Fay (Mrs. William Dimon), 1867-90
Delazon, 1867-90
William, 1867-90
DIPPEL
Martin, 1874-61
DIRLAM
Darius, 1865-123
Elizabeth Niles (Mrs. Darius Dirlam), 1865-123
DISBRO
_____, 1878-93
Mrs., 1864-56
George, 1876-29
Henry, 1864-56
Jonathan, 1876-28
Meeker, 1876-28
W. B. (Rev.), 1865-62, 63
DITTOE
Mr., 1868-114
Mrs., 1868-114
DIVER
_____, 1874-39
Daniel, 1870-99, 100
DIXON
Mr., 1862-25
Fanny, Nov. 1858-37
Henry, 1864-45
James, Nov. 1858-37
John, Nov. 1858-37
Levi, Nov. 1858-37
DOAN-DOANE
Judge, 1868-107
Mr., Mar. 1859-36; 1863-10
Josiah M., Mar. 1860-22
Nathaniel, June 1858-8; June 1859-3
Seth, 1866-69
Timothy, 1862-80
DOBBINS
Capt., 1870-112
DOCKERILL
John, 1876-86
DOCKERVILLE
John, 1876-84
DODDRIDGE
Mr., 1868-110
DODDS
_____, 1878-89
DODSON
Deborah (Mrs.), 1866-88
William B., 1864-117; 1866-87
DOGGETT
J. B., 1865-110
DOLE
D., 1866-94

DOLE continued
Orrin, Nov. 1859-12; 1865-86
Owen, 1866-35
DOLL
Capt., May 1859-38
DONALDSON
_____ Thrall (Mrs. George Donaldson), 1868-19
George (Mrs.), 1868-19, 20, 21
J. H., 1870-32
L. P. B., 1870-32
M. A., 1868-85
M. A. (Mrs.), 1868-13
DONEHAN
Clemens, 1876-82
DONKIN
Elanor Shoton (Mrs. William Donkin) 1862-90
William, 1862-90
DOOLITTLE
Mary L. (Mrs. James Smith), 1867-41
DORSON
James B., 1864-61
DOTY
Mrs., 1876-102
Edward, Mar. 1860-20
James, 1870-51
DOUD
Samuel, 1876-4
Solomon, 1864-72
DOUDS
_____ family, 1864-77
DOUGLAS-DOUGLASS
Mr., May 1859-30
George, June 1858-42; 1862-20
George, June 1858-38
Jotham, Mar. 1860-32
Mary (Mrs. Charles Ruggles), 1863-85,86
Mary J. Peak (Mrs. George Douglas), 1862-20
Nathan, 1863-52
Pearly Clary (Mrs.), June 1858-42, 43
S. A., 1867-2
William (Capt.), Nov. 1859-35, 37, 38
DOUNCE
_____ Wilson (Mrs. Alex Dounce), 1862-83
Alex, 1862-83
John, 1862-85
DOW
David, Mar. 1859-8, 16; 1868-81
Ollie (Mrs. Daniel Clark), 1862-9, 10
DOWE
Nathan, 1868-41
DOWNING
_____ (Mrs. Parker), 1863-67
Capt., 1864-96
Mr., 1865-29; 1867-68; 1870-18
Mrs., 1876-22
C., 1865-57
Cyrus, 1863-67; 1876-22
George S., 1863-67
Lucy (Mrs. Samuel Pegue), Mar. 1860-24
Pamela, 1863-67
Pamela (Mrs. Jeremiah Daniels), 1863-67
Pauline (Mrs. Jeremiah Daniels), 1876-22
Samuel, 1867-103, 104
DOWNING continued
Stephen, June 1858-43; 1878-16
DOWNS
Dr., 1878-102
Celia Cole (Mrs.), 1861-3
Joel, 1865-118
Nathan, Mar. 1860-27; 1868-39; 1878-102
Sarah, 1878-102
Wait Loyal, Mar. 1860-28
Waite, Nov. 1859-38
DOYLE
Anthony, 1863-70
DRAFT
Capt., 1866-35
DRAKE
_____, 1864-28; 1868-110
Capt., May 1859-20; 1866-35
Mr., 1874-46
Mrs., 1874-46
Rev. Mr., 1870-85
Arnold B., Mar. 1860-21
Benjamin, 1874-60, 75; 1876-36, 43, 119
C. F. (Col.), 1870-13
Charles F., 1863-90; 1874-112; 1876-37
Deborah F., (Mrs. Shepherd Patrick), 1876-119
Eliza Ann Hubbell (Mrs. F. H. Drake), 1864-33
F. D., 1862-6, 39, 40; 1863-88; 1864-2
F. H., 1864-33; 1870-32
Fred D., 1865-86
Frederick, 1868-106
George B., 1874-60, 75
Joseph, 1865-11
Josiah, 1874-18
Nancy (Mrs. Daniel Tilden), 1870-13
Oliver, Mar. 1860-36, 37
DRAPER
David F., 1874-60
DRENNAN
William W., 1866-94; 1867-74
DREW
Samuel, Sept. 1860-23
DRENRY
John, 1865-48
DRIVER
Isaiah, 1867-45
James, 1867-45
Wesley, 1867-45
DRUMMOND
Mr., 1864-31, 34
Thomas (Judge), 1865-104
DRURY
_____, Mar. 1860-47
Mary Parker (Mrs. Drury), Mar. 1860-47
DRUYER
Peter, 1866-108
DUBOIS
Rev. Mr., 1866-8
DUCHE
Jacob (Rev.), 1868-110
DUDLEY
John (Judge), 1867-101
DUKES
Alexander, 1863-73
DUNN
Emeline (Mrs. Mansfield H. Gilkison), 1870-113

DULY
Sexton, 1876-83
DUNBAR
Mr., 1863-70
Isaiah, Nov. 1858-34
John, Nov. 1858-34, 36; 1862-25
DUNCAN
Alexander (Mrs. Dr.). 1866-88
James, Sept. 1860-15, 16
Nancy (Mrs. Joseph Hill), Mar. 1860-25
DUNHAM
family, 1863-12
Anna Widner (Mrs. Davis Dunham), Mar. 1860-24
Davis, Mar. 1860-24
J. H., 1865-110
James, Sept. 1860-16
Jonathan, Sept. 1860-16
Lucy (Mrs. Martin Kellogg), Mar. 1859-42
Peter, Sept. 1860-16; 1862-39
S., 1862-39
DUNLAP
A. S., 1868-12
James, 1864-105
Joseph, 1876-86
Dunmore
Lord, 1866-107
Dunn
Lafayette, 1874-60
Mary B., 1866-86
DUNNING
Andrew (Rev.), 1866-103
Charles, Mar. 1860-30
Frank, Mar. 1860-30
O., Mar. 1860-30
DUNTON
Rev., 1863-71
Samuel, 1867-28
DUPONCEAU
Peter, 1870-115
DUPUY
Capt., 1874-28
DURAND
_____ (Mrs. Charles Wells), Nov. 1858-43
S., Nov. 1858-27
DURBIN
_____, 1878-101
DURFEE
Lucy (Mrs.), 1876-115
Perry, 1864-52, 54, 55
Peter, 1876-34
DURHAM
Elizabeth (Mrs. Jonah Lewis), Mar. 1860-24
Isaac, 1876-24
DUTTON
C. F. (Dr.), 1867-79, 80
DWELLE
B. F., 1878-35, 36
Dan, 1878-36
Elijah, 1878-34
Mary, 1878-36
S. S., 1863-41; 1878-36
DWELLY
Frank, June 1858-30; Nov. 1858-2
DWIGHT
(President of Yale), 1865-61, 62
DWIGHT continued
Anne (Mrs.), 1861-1
Nathaniel, 1874-22
DYER
Thomas, 1865-104

EARHART
H. S., 1866-87
EARL
John, 1863-54
Parker, 1876-73
William, 1876-35
EARLEY
John, Mar. 1860-40
Lucy Cook (Mrs. John Earley), Mar. 1860-40
EASTER
Archibald, Mar. 1859-35; 1867-88
Elias, 1867-3
EASTMAN
Mr., 1864-74
Charles, 1868-76
S. (Capt.), 1863-31
EASTON
Archibald, Nov. 1858-13
Jas. D., 1865-86
Sally, 1867-4
Sarah, (Mrs.), 1865-6, 86
EATON
_____ (Mrs. Jonathan Eaton), 1862-5
Mr., 1876-49, 55
A. C., 1865-86
A. F., 1864-4; 1865-86
Abel, 1864-72; 1868-12
Abel F., May 1859-34; 1874-100
Abijah, 1868-83
Alvin C., 1858-39
Archibald, Nov. 1858-13
Arunah, 1858-39
C. G. (Dr.), 1868-9, 12, 85
Comfort, June 1858-40; 1876-61
E. (Rev.), June 1858-30
Elie D., 1876-86
Eliza (Mrs Burnett), 1870-11
Eveline, 1874-22
Francis, Mar. 1860-20
Jeremiah, June 1858-36, 39, 41
Jonathan, June 1858-39; 1862-5
Margery (Mrs. Richardson Eaton), June 1858-37
Richardson, June 1858-30, 37, 39; May 1859-22
Samuel, Mar. 1860-20
Silva, 1865-86
Susannah, 1870-11
T. C., 1876-61, 62
William, 1868-83
EATSMAN
Family, 1864-74
EBRIGHT
Thos. Mc., 1876-77
ECK
J. S., 1876-113
ECKHART
Uriah, 1874-28
EDDY
Mr., 1864-23

EDDY continued
Albert, 1866-83
Allen, Nov. 1858-40
Almira, 1866-82
Caroline, 1865-86; 1866-82
Caroline Akins (Mrs. Joseph Eddy), 1866-83
Edwin, 1866-82
Emeline, 1866-82
Hannah (Mrs.), 1865-20
Hannah Taylor (Mrs. Roswell Eddy), 1866-82, 83, 84
Joseph, 1865-86; 1866-82, 83
Martha, 1866-83
Mary, 1866-83
Mary (Mrs. Cook), 1866-82
R., 1866-8
Roswell, 1865-12, 20; 1866-82, 83, 84; 1868-44
Sophia Beardsley (Mrs. Allen Eddy), Nov. 1858-40
William, 1866-83
EDGAR
Daniel, 1870-32
EDMUNDS
J. M., 1867-17
EDSON
Betsey (Mrs. Enos Rose), 1862-7
Betsey Packard (Mrs. Jacob Edson), 1862-7
Jacob, 1862-7
EDWARDS
Mr., 1863-10
Pres., 1866-102
Adin, Mar. 1860-29
Clarissa, 1863-64
Cynthia J. (Mrs. Paine), 1863-63
Frances H., 1863-64
Harriet, 1863-64
Harriet (Mrs. Rass), 1863-61
Johns S., 1864-12; 1865-32, 75, 76
Jonathan (Rev.), 1862-92; 1865-32; 1866-9; 1876-109
Joseph (Rev.), 1863-61, 62, 63, 64; 1864-3
Joseph S., 1863-64
Logan, (Col.), 1866-119
Ogden, 1865-32
Pierpont, 1865-32
Samuel, 1876-83
Sarah W., 1863-64
William, Mar. 1860-29; 1865-32
ELDER
George D., 1874-61
ELDIS
Martin, Mar. 1859-21
ELDRED
_____, 1867-78
_____ (Mrs. Harvey Sackett), 1870-10
Judge, Mar. 1859-6
Clark, 1867-79, 80; 1878-118, 119
Moses, 1867-78
Samuel, 1870-10
Swift, 1864-53
Thalia, (Mrs. Harvey Sackett), 1864-53
ELDREDGE
Jos. Otis, 1868-81
ELDRIDGE
Mr., Mar. 1859-1
Elanson, 1864-39
Gardner, 1864-38
William, June 1858-22; Nov. 1858-31, 1862-26; 1878-14
ELIZABETH
Queen, 1862-2
ELLENWOOD
_____, 1874-109
ELLETHORPE
Henry, 1863-35
ELLICE
Mr., 1864-109
ELLICOTT
Family, 1867-63
ELIOT-ELLIOT-ELLIOTT
_____, 1862-88; 1864-107
Capt., Nov. 1858-40; Mar. 1860-13
Col., 1864-101; 1866-9
Ann Beardsley (Mrs. Capt. Elliot), Nov. 1858-40
Asa, 1866-9
Charles, 1866-9
Daniel (Capt.), 1866-9
J. D. (Lt.), 1870-112
James, 1876-86
James (Capt.), 1866-9
John, 1866-101
John (Rev.), 1865-98
Laban, 1866-9
Mariah (Mrs. Carpenter), 1866-9
Mayhew, May 1859-1
Mehitable (Mrs. Laban Elliott), 1866-9
Peter (Lt.), 1866-9
Richard G., 1876-127
Sarah (Mrs. Thomas Parker), Mar. 1860-46
ELLIS
_____, 1862-26
E. (Mr.), 1868-49
E. O., Sept. 1860-1
Elisha, Mar. 1860-36, 42
Emaline Pearl (Mrs. Ellis), 1862-26
J. D., 1864-52
Louisa, Mar. 1860-41
Patience (Mrs.), Mar. 1860-41
Plumee Addelisa Smith (Mrs. J. D. Ellis), 1864-52
Relland, 1870-102
William, Nov. 1859-46
ELLS
A. G., 1865-86; 1870-26
Orlando, 1876-35
Roswell, 1865-86
ELRIDGE
_____, 1865-31
Elanson, 1864-39
Gardner, 1864-38
ELSON
William, 1863-67
ELSWORTH-ELLSWORTH
Daniel L, Mar. 1860-23
Elisa _____ Prentiss (Mrs. Ransom B. Ellsworth), 1864-39

ELSWORTH-ELLSWORTH continued
R. B., 1865-86
Ransom B., 1864-38, 39
Rebecca Butler (Mrs. Daniel L. Elsworth), Mar. 1860-23
ELWOOD
F. J. (Miss), 1867-74
R. M. (Miss), 1867-74
ELY
Col., 1874-62, 63
Judge, 1863-46; 1874-87
Mr., 1867-92
David. 1863-60
Heman, 1867-50; 1876-100
EMBREE
David, 1868-23
Isabelle, 1868-23
EMERICK
J. H., 1870-6
EMMONS
Arthur, 1870-77
H. C., 1865-63
Lydia Sexton (Mrs. H. C. Emmons), 1865-63
Oliver, 1863-39
ENGLE
Jacob, 1861-1
ENGLES
J., 1870-2
ENGLISH
Thomas, Mar. 1860-20
ENNES
Hannah (Mrs. Silas Wood), 1861-24
Jacob, 1861-24
James, 1861-24
ENNIS
David B., 1876-82
V. M., 1876-82
ENOS
Mr., 1876-36, 43
Alexander (Col.), Nov. 1859-38; 1862-82
C., Nov. 1859-46
William C., Nov. 1859-46
ENSIGN
Buel, Mar. 1859-33
Linas, Sept. 1860-17; 1862-40
Louise (Mrs. Dan Putnam), Mar. 1860-23; Sept. 1860-16
EPP
Peter, 1876-83
EPPING
Raymond, 1867-102
ERECWELL
Charles, 1874-60
Henry W., 1874-60
ERSKINE
Esther, Mar. 1860-31
ESCH
Barney, 1868-17; 1870-88; 1878-31
ESTA
Martha Ann (Mrs.), Mar. 1860-29
ESTE
D. K. (Judge), 1868-23
ESTY
Hannah (Mrs. Joseph Merrifield), 1870-23
ETTWEIN
_____, 1862-66
EVANS
Mr., Nov. 1858-16; Mar. 1859-22; 1860-11
Forman (Judge), 1865-73
Gilbert (Elder), 1868-6
John (Dr.), 1865-73
Lazarus, 1863-61
Montgomery, 1865-73
Pierce, 1865-73
Richard, 1874-59, 74
EVARTS
Reuben, 1870-51
EVENS
Frank, 1864-44
EVERETT
Judge, 1867-68
Abigail, 1870-32
D., 1878-3
David, 1870-32
Edward, June 1858-25; 1867-49
I. D., 1870-32
EVERITT
Jeremiah, 1866-68
EWILIKEN
Hannah (Mrs. Lewis Jones), 1862-19
EWING
Capt., 1861-43
Mary P. Baum, 1865-122
Thomas, 1870-95
Thomas (Hon.), 1866-41

FACER
Mr., Mar. 1859-10
FACKLER
Jacob, 1864-64, 66
Jonas, 1864-64, 66
FAIRBANKS
_____, 1868-95
FAIRCHILD
Almira (Mrs. Nathan Wooster), 1874-90
Henry (Prof.), 1861-2
FAIRCHILDS
Mr., 1868-44
John B., 1874-60
FAIRFIELD
M. W. (Rev.), 1876-70
FAIRFAX
(Lord), 1863-3
FAIRWELL
Mr., 1874-8
FAKY
Frederick (Major), 1870-87
FALLEY
_____ (Mrs. John Weeden), 1867-92
Mr., Mar. 1860-22; 1868-3
Frederick (Major), Mar. 1859-4, 5; May 1859-17, 45; Mar. 1860-48; Sept. 1860-9, 11, 16, 17, 19, 20, 22, 23, 28, 29, 30, 31, 32, 33; 1863-91, 92, 93, 94; 1864-9; 1876-37, 112; 1878-34, 103
John W., Sept. 1860-22

FALLEY continued
Margaret (Mrs. John Weeden), 1862-79
Margaret Hitchcock (Mrs. Richard Falley), Sept. 1860-28
Richard, Sept. 1860-16, 19, 21, 28, 29, 32; 1862-79; 1864-9; 1867-92; 1876-112, 113
FANCHER
_____ (Mrs. Hiram Townsend), 1864-73
Daniel, 1876-4, 5
T. S., 1864-73; 1876-4
Old Thad, 1876-42
Thaddeus, 1864-73
V. P., 1864-73
Y. S., 1870-32
FANNING
_____ Smith (Mrs. B. G. Fanning), 1870-20
B. C., 1870-20
B. H., 1870-11
FAREWELL
_____, 1876-106
FARLEY
A., 1874-23
Abial, 1867-8
Reuben (Rev.), June 1858-40; 1876-61
FARMAN
Daniel, Mar. 1860-37
FARMER
William W., Mar. 1860-31; 1876-81
FARNHAM
Ralph, 1868-5
FARNUM
Henry, 1876-78
Ralph, 1864-7
FARR
Joseph M., 1861-13; 1874-101
Lizzie H., 1865-86
Mary (Mrs.), 1876-59
FARRAND
L. T., Mar. 1860-28
FARRELL
Judge, 1865-15
FARRINGTON
A. S., 1862-11
FARWELL-FAREWELL
_____, 1876-106
Judge, Mar. 1859-20; Mar. 1860-38; 1865-15
Widow, Mar. 1860-22
L., 1878-24, 26
Leman, 1874-44
Lyman, Nov. 1858-28; May 1859-17, 27, 47; Mar. 1860-25; 1863-70; 1864-84; 1866-53, 54; 1867-68; 1868-44; 1878-18
M., Nov. 1859-32; Mar. 1860-9; 1876-113
Moores (Moors) (Moses), Mar. 1859-21, 24; Mar. 1860-9; 1866-75; 1868-18, 44; 1870-6, 88; 1878-24, 25, 26, 33
Theodotia Abbott (Mrs Lyman Farwell), Mar. 1860-25
FAXON
Theodore S., 1874-47
FAY
_____, Nov. 1859-45
_____ (Mrs. William Dimon), 1867-90
Family, 1862-12
Aaron, Mar. 1859-36, 37; 1864-21; 1874-20
FAY continued
Appollos, June 1858-40; Mar. 1859-36, 40; 1864-21, 22, 113; 1865-53, 86; 1874-20; 1876-61
C. V., 1866-2
Caroline Kellogg (Mrs. Lyman Fay), May 1859-47, 48; Mar. 1860-8, 23; 1864-22
Clarissa, Mar. 1859-36; 1864-21
John, Mar. 1859-36; May 1859-21; 1864-21, 22
Lucius, Mar. 1859-36, 37; 1864-21, 22; 1874-20
Lyman (Dr.), Mar. 1859-37; May 1859-48; Mar. 1860-8, 23; 1864-21, 22; 1874-20
Marcin, 1874-60
Mehetabel Bigelow (Mrs. John Fay), Mar. 1859-36
Polly (Mrs. Martin Kellogg), Mar. 1859-36, 40; 1874-21
Rebecca Winslow (Mrs. Aaron Fay), 1864-21; 1874-20
Winslow, 1863-6
FEAGLES
Josiah, 1868-13
FEARING
Paul, 1870-63
FELLER
Samuel, 1876-4
FELT
A., Sept. 1860-2; 1867-4
Almira (Mrs. Wesley Laylin), 1867-73
Ames, 1863-4; 1864-8, 33, 100, 102; 1865-87; 1867-6, 70, 73; 1868-10, 43, 44
Fanny Dillingham (Mrs. Amos Felt), 1867-73
Julia R. (Mrs. J. C. Waggoner), 1867-73
Samantha, 1867-4
Sophia (Mrs.), 1863-4; 1865-86; 1867-74
Sophia Page Mason (Mrs. Amos Felt), 1864-33, 102
FELTON
Ephraim, 1864-85
Mary Ann Fitch Chandler (Mrs. Ephraim Felton), 1864-85
Percy (Mrs. Oliver W. Slocum), 1867-115
FENN
_____ Smith, 1866-75
Amos, 1866-75; 1868-17, 18, 19, 85
Amos, (Rev.), 1866-75; 1868-13, 17, 18, 44
Urania (Mrs.), 1865-123
FENTON
Reuben, 1864-65
FERGEL
Augustus, 1876-83
FERGERSON
George, Nov. 1859-8, 12; 1866-35
Jonathan, 1866-35
FERGUS
Robert, 1865-106
FERGUSON
Aaron, Mar. 1860-22
J. A., 1864-6
FERIS
Darius, 1868-106
FERMAN-SEE FURMAN
FERREE
Charles, 1866-116
Peter P. (Col.), 1865-16; 1868-11, 76; 1870-69, 72, 74, 75; 1878-32
FERRER
John, 1870-95

FERRIS
A., 1876-34
Abraham, 1864-52, 54, 55, 57
Abram, 1876-5
Amy (Mrs. Samuel B. Lewis), 1874-82
Byron, 1864-52
Elias, 1864-52
Elmira, 1864-52
Erastus, 1864-52
Franklin, 1864-52
George, 1864-52
Harriet, 1864-52
Israel, 1876-5
Jesse, 1864-52
Johannah Shackleford (Mrs. Erastus Ferris), 1864-52
Laura, 1864-52
Lois, 1864-52
Marinda Phillips (Mrs. Abraham Ferris), 1864-52
Philetus, 1864-52; 1870-32
Samuel, 1864-52; 1876-5
Sarah, 1864-52
Sarah Monroe (Mrs. Philetus Ferris), 1864-52
FERRY-SEE FERREE
FERUALD(FERNALD)
James, 1876-82
FESENDON
Clarisa, 1864-45
Jonathan, 1864-45
FETTERHOOF
Jacob, 1864-66
FIDLER
Nancy, 1876-99
FIELDS
Othniel, 1862-16
FILLMORE
Millard, 1862-78; 1864-43; 1865-105
FILMORE
Conrad, 1874-61
FINCH
Amasa, 1867-8, 74
Amos H., 1867-83, 84
Selma (Mrs.), 1867-74
FINDLAY
_____, 1874-44
Gen., 1864-118
Mr., 1867-28
James, 1864-106; 1870-108
Jonathan Smith, 1870-108
FINEFROCK
Judge, 1876-8, 9
FINK
Daniel, 1874-60
FINLEY
_____, 1878-89
FINN
John A., 1876-58
FINNEY
Erastus, May 1859-21
John, 1870-51
FIRKINS
George, 1863-37
FIRMAN-SEE FURMAN
FIRTH
Joseph, 1876-84, 86
FISH
Benjamin, 1866-35
C. D. (Mrs.), 1865-87
G. A., 1862-5
George, 1874-60
George A., 1865-86
George H., Mar. 1860-36
H. N., 1863-42, 43
Harriet (Mrs.), 1874-31
Jonathan, 1862-11
S. (Major), 1867-7
S. D., 1865-5; 1874-31
William L., Mar. 1860-43
FISHER
_____, 1878-62
Charles, 1876-82
David, 1864-118
John, 1870-24
Josiah R., 1874-59, 74
N. W. (Rev.), 1878-27
Olive M. (Mrs.), 1876-99
Sally Hendryx (Mrs. John Fisher), 1870-24
FISK
Abram, 1868-8
Asa, 1863-81
Jane Sherarts (Mrs. Asa Fisk), 1863-81
Leonard, 1868-85; 1874-31
Roby A. (Mrs.), 1874-22
W. C., 1868-85; 1874-3
FITCH
_____ Hawks (Mrs. Burwell Fitch), 1864-88
Mr., Sept. 1860-15
Rev., 1863-71
Betsey (Mrs. William West), 1864-85
Buel, Mar. 1859-26
Burwell, Nov. 1859-10; Mar. 1860-24, 38; 1864-84, 85, 86, 88, 89, 98
Cook, 1864-12
Daniel, 1864-58
David H. (Hon.), Nov. 1859-13
Eliza (Mrs. William Burns), 1864-85
Hannah, 1864-57, 58
Hannah Raymond (Mrs. Jonathan Fitch), 1864-89
Harriet, 1874-31
James Jr., Sept. 1860-23
Jonathan, 1864-84, 86, 87, 89
Mary Ann (Mrs. Buck Chandler) (Mrs. Ephraim Felton), 1864-85
O. H., 1865-87
Rebeca, 1864-58
Susan (Mrs. Alonza Husted), 1864-85
Susanna Hawk (Mrs. Burwell Fitch), Mar. 1860-24
Talmon, 1864-11
Thomas, 1863-95; 1864-57, 58; 1868-3
FITZGERALD
Mr., Nov. 1858-36, 37; 1862-17
William, Nov. 1858-35
FITZWALTER
Robert, 1874-50
FLAGG
Dr., 1866-57
FLANDERS
George, 1876-83
FLANNERY
Mrs., 1878-110

FLEEHARTY
John, 1863-71; 1876-63
FLEMING-FLEMMING
Mr., Nov. 1858-33
Ann (Mrs. John McCord), Mar. 1860-24
Benjamin, 1870-112
H. R., 1870-32
John B., Mar. 1860-23; 1862-81
Thomas, 1870-3, 32
FLEMMAN
John, 1878-16
FLEMMOND
Mr., Nov. 1858-33; Nov. 1859-4; 1863-25, 26, 27
Elizabeth Pollock (Mrs. John B. Flemmond), June 1858-43; 1863-66; 1867-22; 1876-21, 33
J. B., 1876-24
John Baptiste (Elizabeth Pollock), June 1858-43, 44; Nov. 1858-28; Mar. 1859-1, 2, 3; 1863-66, 70; 1865-28, 45, 47, 49; 1866-52, 53, 54; 1867-21; 1870-18; 1876-21, 32, 33
Betsey, Mar. 1860-41
Eleanor, Mar. 1860-41
J., 1870-4
John, Mar. 1860-36, 39
Martha (Mrs. Augustus Cook), Mar. 1860-39
Moses, Mar. 1860-20
Owen, Mar. 1860-39
Rachel, 1864-28
William, 1864-28
FLING
Horace, 1876-82
John, 1876-82
FLINNEY
Elijah, June 1858-46
FLINT
_____, 1868-110
Jasper, 1876-86
FLOYD
Samuel, 1878-61
FOBES
Capt., 1878-84
FOGELSONG
James, 1864-65
FOLGER
Mrs., 1878-113
FOLLARD
Edward, 1864-109
FOLLET
C., (Mrs. Chapman), Nov. 1859-13
Elisa G., 1876-121
F. M., 1878-25
Oran, 1870-32; 1876-121
FOLSOM
Mr., 1867-105
FOLWELL
W. W., 1870-6
FOOT-FOOTE
Esquire, 1865-24
Alma, 1864-40
Betsy (Mrs. Spencer Baker), 1864-39
Delia, 1864-40
E. O. (Mrs.), 1874-91
Ebenezer, 1864-46
FOOT-FOOTE continued
Eliza, 1864-45
Eliza Hunsiker (Mrs. Samuel Foote), 1864-40
Esther, 1864-45
Franklin, 1864-40
George T., 1864-45
Hannah (Mrs. William Cherry), 1862-78; 1864-43
Henry, 1864-40
Herceilia, 1864-40
Kate, 1870-32
Lyndon, 1864-40
Maria, 1864-40
Maria Palmer (Mrs. Moses Foot), 1868-83
Moses, 1868-83
Ramus, 1864-40
S. (Judge), 1862-6; 1864-3, 4
Samuel, 1865-86
Samuel, June 1858-30; Nov. 1858-2; 1864-36, 38, 39, 40, 45
Tamezen, 1868-85
Walter, 1865-87
FORBES
_____, 1865-70
FORBUSH
T. B. (Rev.), 1874-103
FORCE
M. F. 1870-50
FORD
_____, Nov. 1858-16
J. B. (Dr.), 1861-5; 1865-2
James, Nov. 1859-8
Seabury, 1864-106
Uriah, Mar. 1860-43
FOREMAN
James, 1865-48
FORLEY
A. B., 1867-74
FORMAN
James, Mar. 1859-24; Mar. 1860-21
FORNWALD
L., 1867-4
FORRER
Samuel, 1870-94
FORREST
Jo K. C., 1865-102
FORRY
Daniel, 1870-50
FORSYTH
_____, 1876-108
F., 1868-80, 81
Frederick, May 1859-20, 21; Mar. 1860-14; 1864-55; 1868-80
James, 1862-40; 1865-11
FOSTER
Mrs., 1878-114
Abigail (Mrs. Jeb Stone), 1867-106
Betsey, 1878-103
Edward, 1874-61
F. E. (Mrs.), 1876-122
G. F., 1865-104
George (Mrs.), 1878-103
John H., 1874-118
Mary (Mrs.), 1874-118
Moses, 1874-21
Robert, 1876-82

FOSTER continued
Romeo W., 1876-82
Sally Smith, 1868-85
Shelemith, 1868-85
William S., 1876-82
FOUKE
Charles W., 1876-78
FOWLER
Dr., 1862-2
Judge, Mar. 1860-2; Sept. 1860-48; 1870-6, 12; 1874-4, 11
Mr., 1874-8, 31
Eliza Barret (Mrs. Frederick W. Fowler), Mar. 1860-23
Frederick W., (Hon.), Nov. 1858-4, 25; Mar. 1859-1; May 1859-46, 47; Mar. 1860-12, 19, 22, 23, 48; Sept. 1860-1; 1862-6; 1867-90; 1868-106; 1876-82; 1878-18
H. (Judge), Sept. 1860-18; 1867-91; 1874-2, 31, 33
Harvey (Hon.), June 1858-30; Nov. 1858-2; Sept. 1860-8, 16, 21, 29; 1864-7, 9; 1865-86; 1874-2, 12, 20, 30, 37, 119; 1876-12, 112, 113; 1878-21
Henry, 1865-109, 110
I., June 1858-30
Isaac, June 1858-30; Nov. 1858-25; Nov. 1859-30; Sept. 1861-7; 1865-86; 1866-6; 1867-91; 1876-12; 1878-3
J. N., 1865-86
J. W., 1861-3
Josiah, Sept. 1860-29; 1865-86
Mabel Elizabeth, 1876-113
Margaret, 1876-113
Medad, Sept. 1860-29
Moses D., Mar. 1860-10
Richard, Sept. 1860-12, 15
S., June 1858-30
FOX
_____, 1868-73
_____ Smith (Mrs. A. Fox), 1870-20
Mrs., 1862-14
A., 1870-20
Aaron, Nov. 1858-35
Allen, 1870-31
Alva, 1865-12
Amanda, 1870-31
Amos, 1874-59
Anson, 1862-17
Caroline, 1864-51
Charles, Nov. 1858-35; 1862-22
Cynthia Beach (Mrs. D. Fox), 1864-50
D., 1864-50
D. H. (Maj.), 1876-35
Daniel, 1864-52
David, 1862-22
Esther Benschoter (Mrs. Joel Fox), 1862-19
Fidelia, 1870-31
Hiram, 1862-14, 22
James, 1876-82
Joel, 1862-19
John, Sept. 1860-1; 1874-101
Jordan, 1874-59
Marion, 1864-50
Mina, 1864-55
FOX continued
Mina M. Smith (Mrs. Reuben Fox), 1864-51
Paul, 1864-50
Polly Wetherby (Mrs. Roger Fox), 1870-31
Reuben, May 1859-35; 1864-51, 54, 55; 1874-59; 1876-34
Roger, 1865-12; 1870-31
FOXCROFT
Samuel (Rev.), 1867-106
FRANCIS
Cyrus, 1876-86
Owen, 1876-86
FRANKLIN
Benjamin, May 1859-22; 1861-46; 1862-33, 44; 1865-95; 1867-2; 1870-115
Caleb, 1866-5
F. E. (Col.), 1876-84
Mabel Pierson (Mrs.), 1868-8
FRAYER
A., 1870-11
Isaac, 1874-102
FRAZIER
Major, May 1859-38, 39; 1878-83
John, 1867-8
FREEMAN
Mr., Nov. 1858-37; Mar. 1860-26
George, 1862-28
J. (Mrs. Robert H. Betts), Mar. 1860-25
Joshua, 1862-11
L. N. (Rev.), 1876-77
Sarah (Mrs. Thomas Judd), 1867-40
William, 1868-58
FREES
James, 1863-16
FREESE
John, 1865-11, 1868-44
FRENCH
Elder, 1860-11; 1862-29; 1864-25; 1870-23
Mr., 1867-78; 1870-19; 1876-2
Mrs., 1876-2
A. B., 1868-85
Alfred, Mar. 1860-31
Amanda, 1868-33
Ann, Mar. 1860-26
Anna, Nov. 1859-41
B., 1868-58
Bennet, Nov. 1859-38; 1868-97
Berlin, 1862-2
Burton, Nov. 1859-39; 1863-6; 1868-35, 37, 41; 1874-85
C., 1868-58
Daniel I., 1865-120
E., Mar. 1860-27
Ellen, Mar. 1860-30
Erastus, Nov. 1859-39; 1860-26, 27; 1868-40, 41, 58, 85
Hiram, 1862-2
J., Mar. 1860-29; 1868-9; 1876-11
J. C., Mar. 1860-28
Jane, 1868-33
Joseph, 1860-27; 1865-87; 1868-8, 9; 1874-6; 1876-1, 11; 1878-103
Joseph (Mrs.), 1876-1
Laura, Mar. 1860-29
M., 1868-58
M. W. (Mrs.), 1870-42
Marcus, Nov. 1859-42; 1868-35

FRENCH continued
Martha, Mar. 1860-27
Mary, 1868-8
Nathaniel, 1868-7
Peter, Nov. 1859-22
Ruth, Nov. 1859-40
Ruth (Mrs. E. French) Mar. 1860-28
S., 1868-58
S. C., 1868-85; 1874-6
Silas, Nov. 1859-39, 41; 1863-6; 1868-33, 35, 58; 1874-6
Theodore, 1878-2
Virgil, Mar. 1860-27
Zachery, Mar. 1860-29
FREUND
Michael, 1874-59
FRIES
Silas, 1864-9
FRINK
Mr., Sept. 1860-43; 1864-89
William, 1864-29, 85; 1878-77, 78
FRISBEE
Caroline (Mrs. Kneeland Townsend), 1867-61, 64
Gideon (Capt.), 1867-61, 62, 63, 64
FRITH
George J., 1874-59, 74
FRITS
Joseph, Mar. 1860-37
FRITZ
Henry, 1876-78
FROST
Esther (Mrs. Abijah Comstock), May 1859-16
J., 1864-78
John, 1864-73
L., 1864-78
R., 1864-78
Sarah (Mrs. Hosmer Merry), 1867-28; 1878-108
FROTHINGHAM
N. L. (Rev.), 1867-49
FRY
William, 1876-87
FRYE
Addison M., 1874-60
FULLER
Deacon, 1868-51
Family, 1862-27
Dan, 1878-31
Edward, Mar. 1860-20
John, 1868-81
Jonathan, Sept. 1860-22
Levi, 1862-29; 1866-94
S. B., 1862-7
Samuel, Mar. 1860-19, 20
T. S., June 1858-30; Nov. 1858-1; Sept. 1860-2
FULLERTON
A. N., 1865-110
FULLSTOWE
R., 1864-74
FULTON
J. D., 1865-86
Mary J. (Mrs. Austin Starbird), 1876-124
FURGERSON
Ann (Mrs. Philips), June 1858-46
George, June 1858-46; 1866-35
Jonathon, 1866-35
FURLONG
Benajeh, 1876-96
M. C., 1870-12
FURMAN-FREEMAN-FIRMAN
Benjamin, Mar. 1860-31
Isaac, Nov. 1859-16
Margaret (Mrs. I. T. Reynolds), 1878-110
Mary (Mrs. Benjamin Firman), Mar. 1860-31
Susan (Mrs. Robert W. Betts), Nov. 1858-43
Susan (Mrs. Walter Betts), 1870-30
FURNALD
T. C., Nov. 1858-2

GADSBY
_____, 1867-104
GAGE
General, 1862-92; 1866-115
Mr., 1867-2
A., 1867-4; 1878-5
Albert, 1865-87
GAGER
Edwin (Mrs.), 1876-118
GAINES
Brig. Gen., 1870-55
GALE
A. H., 1862-76; 1865-87
A. H. (Mrs.), 1865-87
W. H., 1868-85
GALLAGHER
Sgt., 1876-81
GALLATIN
Albert, May 1859-7
GALLOWAY
_____ Mar. 1859-21; 1878-26
Arminda (Mrs.), Mar. 1860-31
GALLUP
Mr., May 1859-22; 1868-79
C. H., 1863-2; 1878-1
Clarissa, 1878-103
Clarissa Benedict (Mrs. Hallet Gallup), May 1859-20; 1863-4
Hallet, May 1859-20, 28; 1878-103, 104
Sally Beals (Mrs. William Gallup), May 1859-20
William, May 1859-20, 28; 1865-48; 1876-46
William Jr., May 1859-21
GALPIN
_____ Adams (Mrs. L. Galpin), 1867-90
Amos, 1870-77
L. (Deacon), 1868-72
Leman (Dr.), 1864-51; 1867-90
Sarah Sturdevant (Mrs. Galpin), 1864-51
GALWAY
Thomas, 1876-78
GANNER
Benjamin, 1864-65
GANO
_____ (Mrs. Tiley), 1864-117
John Stiles (Gen.), 1864-117, 118
GANONG
John, Mar. 1859-15
GARCELD
Gen., 1868-3

GARDINER-GARDNER
_____ (M. D.), Sept. 1860-45
C. R., June 1858-40
Charles, June 1858-40, 41
Elisha, Nov. 1859-13
John, Nov. 1859-13
Richard, Mar. 1860-20; Sept. 1860-42; 1865-87
W., 1874-32
W. R. (Rev.), 1865-63
William, 1876-46, 59
William H., Mar. 1860-22
GARFIELD
Gen., 1868-2, 5
GARNER
Elizabeth, 1865-87
George, June 1860-2
Henry, 1866-2
Timothy, 1866-2
W. N., 1865-87
GARRET-GARRETT
A. C., 1874-75
Augustus, 1874-60
Augustus C., 1874-60, 75
George W., 1876-25, 28
GARRISON
Mr., Sept. 1860-39, 46; 1870-73, 74
Alpheus, 1865-33
Amanda, 1865-42
Charles M., 1865-39
Daniel, 1865-33
Edwin Feby, 1865-39
Elizabeth Baxter (Mrs. John Garrison), 1865-42
Elizabeth Watts (Mrs. Ephraim Garrison), 1865-33
Ephraim, 1865-33
Harvey E., 1874-60
Isaac, 1865-39
Jane, 1865-33
John, Mar. 1859-18, 19; 1862-76, 77; 1865-4, 5, 6, 33, 34, 35, 36, 37, 38, 39; 1867-108, 114; 1878-23
Mary Ann, 1865-39
Phoebe, 1865-33
Rebecca Mills (Mrs. John Garrison), 1865-39
Sarah, 1865-39
William C., 1865-39
Willis, 1865-39
GARRITT
George W. (Mrs.), 1876-28
GASS
James R., 1870-51
GASTON
_____ Bissell (Mrs. George R. Gaston), 1867-90
George R., 1867-90
GATES
_____, 1868-6
Abigail (Mrs. Erasmus M. Sackett), 1864-53
Anna (Mrs. John Barber), 1868-80
David, 1876-35
Joseph, 1864-56
Nora (Mrs. Cyrus S. Beach), 1864-50
S. W., 1866-94
Zebedee, 1868-80
GATZ
Philip, 1876-83
GAUFF
George, 1874-118
GAULT
Samuel, 1865-87
Sarah Lavinia Sturtevant (Mrs. William Gault), 1864-53
William, 1864-53
GAUNTT
Jefferson, 1865-95
GAVITT
Asa B., Mar. 1860-22
Benjamin F., Mar. 1860-23
Polly Markham (Mrs. Benjamin F. Gavit), Mar. 1860-23
GEAR
Mr., Sept. 1861-43, 44
GEER
Mr., Mar. 1860-22
Calvin, Nov. 1859-3
James, Nov. 1859-3
GEESY
J., June 1858-30; Nov. 1858-2
GEIWRICK
Gertrude (Mrs. Mathew Marvin), Mar. 1859-42
GEM
Charles, Nov. 1859-27
Christopher, Nov. 1859-27
GEORGE
Joseph, 1868-85; 1874-47; 1876-14
King of England II & III, 1866-6; 1867-8; 1868-94
Moses, 1868-85
GEROW
D. J., Mar. 1860-11
GETSON
Conred, 1876-84, 86
Francis P., 1876-84
GIBBON
Gen., 1874-71
GIBBS
Mr., May 1859-17, 18; 1863-74; 1864-99; 1865-5; 1870-69, 74; 87; 1874-84
Mrs., 1865-3, 41; 1866-4; 1874-84
Abigail (Mrs. John Wood), 1865-58
B. F., 1876-62
Charles, 1874-84
D., 1868-80, 81
David, June 1858-25, 33; Mar. 1859-38; May 1859-20, 25, 26, 28, 29; Nov. 1859-27; Mar. 1860-14,16, 17, 23, 25; Sept. 1860-42; 1863-54; 1864-32, 88; 1866-81; 1870-87; 1874-83, 84; 1876-36, 41, 46
E. G., 1870-4; 1874-3, 15, 18, 19, 22, 38; 1876-11
E. H., 1867-90; 1874-30, 111
Eliza, May 1859-29, 31
Eliza Lockwood (Mrs. David Gibbs), 1866-81; 1874-17
Elon, 1866-2
Elon G., 1865-87
Henry, May 1859-29
James, 1868-17; 1876-36, 41
James B. (Rev.), 1861-48
Jonas, Mar. 1859-2, 18, 19; 1862-76; 1864-110; 1868-45; 1878-23

GIBBS continued
Luther, 1864-110
Margaret, 1874-96
Margaret Lewis, 1874-10, 92
Michael, June 1858-44; Nov. 1858-5; Mar. 1859-2, 18, 19, 21, 26, 32; Sept. 1860-2, 4, 46, 47; 1861-1; 1862-76, 77; 1864-110; 1865-57; 1866-66, 69; 1878-17, 23
Roswell, 1874-84
S. B., 1874-88
Stephen, 1876-58
Violate (Mrs. Hickley), 1864-110
William, 1868-13, 100; 1874-10, 96, 97
GIBSON
L. L., 1876-14, 127
Samuel H., June 1858-30; Nov. 1858-1; Sept. 1860-1; 1876-4, 8
GIDDINGS
Calvin, 1876-101
J. R., 1878-17, 86
Joshua R. (Hon.), May 1859-37; Sept. 1860-5; 1862-6; 1865-3; 1870-70
GIERSDORF
F., 1878-25
GIFFORD
Abram, 1876-4
H. J., 1876-6
Humphrey, 1874-30, 37; 1876-4
GILBERT
Capt., June 1858-24; May 1859-21
Miss (Mrs. Goodwin), Nov. 1858-28; May 1859-45; Sept. 1860-7
Mr., Mar. 1859-35; 1865-3, 27; 1866-4
Andrew J., 1874-59
Benjamin J., 1868-13
Enos, June 1858-39; May 1859-20; Mar. 1860-9; Sept. 1860-43; 1868-80; 1874-88; 1876-46
Rodolphus, 1865-87
Truman, Nov. 1858-14, 15; 1876-33
GILCHRIST
_____, Mar. 1859-22; 1878-62, 63
William, 1864-55
GILKISON
Emeline Dukes (Mrs. Mansfield H. Gilkison), 1870-113
Mansfield H., 1870-113, 114
GILL
Mr., 1866-55
GILLARD
William, 1874-60, 75
GILLEN
Charles, 1874-61
GILLESPIE
J. W., 1866-88
Sarah Brown, 1874-46
GILLET-GILLETT
Mr., 1862-28
Caroline M., 1876-14, 127
J. M., 1870-32
O. F., 1870-32
GILLMORE
Quartus, 1874-44
GILMAN
Mrs., Mar. 1860-31
Caroline, 1874-79
J., Mar. 1860-31
John, Mar. 1860-30
Melvin, Mar. 1860-31
GILMORE
Arctus, Mar. 1860-24
Orra Nichels (Mrs. Arctus Gilmore), Mar. 1860-24
Q. A. (Gen.), 1864-4, 104
GILPIN
John, 1868-77; 1876-59
GILSON
A. B., Mar. 1860-42; 1862-8; 1865-87
Amos, Mar. 1860-38, 42
Asa B., Mar. 1860-38
Asa, Mar. 1860-36, 37, 38, 39, 40, 41, 42; 1864-84
E. W., 1862-5, 7; 1865-87; 1867- 5, 6; 1870-12
Elon, Mar. 1860-38
James, Mar. 1860-38
Jonas, Mar. 1860-36, 38, 42; 1864-67; 1865-83
Nabby Ormes (Mrs. Asa Gilson), Mar. 1860-36, 42; 1865-87; 1876-117
Nahum, Mar. 1860-36, 37, 38, 40; 1864-84; 1865-4; 1866-78; 1878-104, 105
Naram, Mar. 1860-33, 36, 37, 38, 40, 41, 42; 1864-84
Naum, 1865-87
Sally O. (Mrs.), 1867-6; 1878-1, 104
Sally Ormes (Mrs. Nahum Gilson), Mar. 1860-42; 1865-87; 1866-78
GINGERICH
John, 1876-86
GIPSON
Samuel, Mar. 1860-28
GIRARD
John H., 1866-87
GIRTY
_____, 1864-30
George, Mar. 1860-22
James, 1862-88
Simon, 1862-88; 1866-107, 108; 1870-55, 56, 57
GIST
Christopher, 1866-118
GIVIEN
W. F., 1874-31
GLADWIN
Major, 1867-9, 10, 11, 12, 13
GLENN
_____, 1862-25
Clarissa Tenant (Mrs. Glenn), 1862-25
GLINES
Nathaniel, Nov. 1858-27; Mar. 1859-1
GLINN
_____, Nov. 1859-24
GLINTON
_____, 1878-62
GLOUCESTER
Duke of, 1864-109; 1868-46
GLOVER
Samuel, 1866-116
GODARD
Charles B. (Hon.), 1865-14

GODDARD continued
Rev., 1866-24
Charles C., 1874-59
Dennis (Rev.), Mar. 1860-42; 1862-29; 1865-80; 1866-82
GODDIN
Dennis, 1868-76
GODFREY
_____, 1864-50
Betsey Cowell (Mrs. Godfrey), 1864-50
Zerah, 1874-59
GOLDEN
George Jr., 1874-61
John, 1868-73
R., 1864-71
William, 1870-51; 1874-61
GOLDING
John, 1865-87
GOLDSMITH
Oliver, 1862-2
GOODALE
L., (Dr.), 1862-94
Warner (Elder), 1862-29
GOODELL
Betsey Millerman (Mrs. George Goodell), 1864-25
Emanuel F., 1874-59
George, 1864-25
John, 1866-85
GOODENOUGH
Henry, 1874-60
GOODMAN
Alfred T., 1870-50
John, Mar. 1860-20
GOODNOW
M. W., 1876-58
R., 1876-58
GOODRICH
_____ (Mrs. Amos Harris), Nov. 1858-42
George, Nov. 1859-12; 1865-87; 1876-12
Jacob, Nov. 1859-9, 11; Mar. 1860-25
John E., 1876-84
GOODWELL
L. M., 1863-6
GOODWIN
_____ Gilbert (Mrs. Goodwin), Nov. 1858-28; May 1859-45; Sept. 1860-7
Mr., May 1859-45
Caleb, Nov. 1859-26
Charlotte L., 1876-14
Erastus (Dr.), Nov. 1858-28; Mar. 1859-33; May 1859-45; Sept. 1860-7
George H., 1876-86
Levi, Nov. 1859-26
Theron, 1874-14
Theron (Mrs.), 1864-9
GORDON
Abagail (Mrs. John Sherarts), 1863-81
Daniel, Mar. 1860-42
Robert (Mrs.), 1867-90
Samuel W., 1876-86
GORHAM
Mr., 1866-111, 112, 113; 1876-6
William H., 1876-4
William H. H., 1876-4
GORTON
Richard, 1865-87
GOSHORN
_____, 1876-98
N., 1866-88
GOUIN
_____ (Monsieur), 1867-10, 12
GOULD
Kiah, 1874-47
GRAFF
Harmon, 1876-83
Harrison, 1876-83
GRAHAM
_____, 1867-110
Amelia Shephard, 1866-56
Francis, 1866-50, 56; 1867-1, 21; 1876-21, 24, 32, 33
George G., 1865-87
Hannah, 1874-112
Isabella (Mrs. James Graham), 1866-50
James, 1866-50
William A., 1865-109
GRAM
F., 1867-74
GRANGER
General, 1865-59
Mr., Sept. 1860-35, 43
Gideon (Judge), June 1858-21; Mar. 1859-39; 1867-62, 63
Oliver, Mar. 1860-22
GRANNIS
Thomas, 1874-60
GRANT
General, 1866-98; 1874-67
Alexander (Capt.), 1864-109; 1868-45
GRASS
Henry, June 1858-44; Sept. 1860-12, 13, 47, 48
GRAVES
Hannah, 1874-110
J. R., 1874-110
Jeduthan R., 1874-110
GRAY
Abraham, 1876-98
E., 1876-16
Erastus, 1876-74, 75; 1878-1, 2
H. C., 1861-13; 1876-25
J. H., 1865-106
John, 1868-46, 111
Richard F., 1876-83
Solomon, June 1858-45; Nov. 1858-22; May 1859-24
GREELEY
Horace, 1874-27, 28
GREEN
_____, 1862-19
_____ Van Deusen (Mrs. Abner Green), 1863-53
Rev., 1865-121
Abigail (Mrs.), 1868-6
Abigail T., 1868-85
Abner, 1863-53, 57, 59; 1876-35
Amos, 1868-84
Benjamin, 1867-28
Crary, 1874-60
Cyrus C., 1868-85

GREEN continued
Ebenezer, 1868-83, 84
Edward, 1867-28
Elias, Mar. 1860-29; 1862-2; 1870-32
Elisa (Mrs.), 1864-7
Franklin, 1874-60
James, Nov. 1858-2; 1865-5, 87; 1870-12; 1876-71, 72, 73
John, 1868-103
John F., 1865-4, 23; 1866-2
Jonathan, 1864-31
Lewis, 1868-84
Louisa, 1867-4
Mared, 1865-86
Mary, 1874-46
Nathaniel (Gen.), 1866-92
Polly Jones (Mrs. Green), 1862-19
Ruhama (Mrs.), (Mrs. Charles Builderbaugh) (Mrs. John Green), 1868-103, 104, 105
Ruth (Mrs. Ebenezer Green), 1868-84
Salmon, 1874-99
Silas, 1868-84
Votty (Mrs. Austin Ward), 1868-83
Zalmon, 1867-27, 1868-5, 27, 85
Zetta (Mrs.), 1867-28
GREENFIELD
Abby, 1865-87; 1867-7
Abigail (Mrs.), 1867-7
William (Col.), 1864-38, 40, 43
GREENHOW
George, 1874-61
GREENLEAF
John G., 1867-114
GREGG
Harriet (Mrs. Jeduthan Cobb), 1862-26
James E., (Capt.), 1876-78, 82
Lucretia, 1870-32
Peter, 1878-25, 61
Philander, 1870-6
GREGORY
_____ Reed, 1865-116
Abraham, 1864-57
Catharine (Mrs. David Wood), 1865-58
Dewitt, 1876-84
Ezra, 1868-115
George, Mar. 1860-3
J. S., 1865-116
William, Mar. 1860-37; 1862-10; 1868-13
GREY
General, 1862-11
Edwin, 1876-84
GRIDLEY
William, 1876-81
GRIER
Joanna (Mrs. Benjamin L. Hill), 1874-95
GRIFFIN
A. B., 1874-3, 8, 12, 15, 18, 23; 1876-7
Abijah, 1864-74
C. B., 1870-51
Henry, May 1859-33; 1864-7; 1865-87; 1868-76
Hulda, 1876-127
R. B., 1876-4
Riley, 1876-5
Robert, 1870-11
GRIGGS
John L, 1874-59
GRISWOLD
_____ (Mrs. Henry W. Wessells), 1870-77
Mr., 1863-2
Chester (Capt.), 1870-77
Frances Ann (Mrs. Ebenezer Lane), 1867-50
Hannah (Mrs. Peter Brown), 1865-82
Marian (Mrs. Charles E. Chandler) (Mrs. Ebenezer Lane), 1867-49
Matthew (Judge), Mar. 1860-32; 1867-49
Roger, 1874-117
Solomon, June 1858-24; Nov. 1858-28; Nov. 1859-25; 1870-86; 1878-15
W. F., 1861-45
GROFF
Joseph H., 1874-61
GROSS
_____, 1876-96
GROSVENOR
C. P. (Rev.), 1866-103
Thomas (Col.), 1866-102, 103
GROVE
William, Sept. 1860-20
GROVER
George A., 1876-84
I. P. 1876-84
Phile, 1876-83
Truman, 1868-85
William, 1876-82
GRUESBECK
John, 1876-87
GRUMLEY
E. S., 1876-70
GRUMON
Stephen P., Mar. 1860-22
GUAMISO
Duchess, 1868-102
GUION
Alven (Rev.), 1876-50, 51
GUNN
Charles, 1865-74; 1866-69
Christopher, 1866-69
Elijah, 1866-69
Harris, June 1858-44
Horace, Nov. 1859-4; 1878-97
John, Mar. 1860-37; 1867-74
GURLEY
_____, 1876-98; 1878-93
Father, 1876-108
Mr., 1874-13, 14
Dr., 1878-56
_____ Beatty (Mrs. L. B. Gurley), Nov. 1859-26
L. B. (Rev.), May 1859-46; Nov. 1859-12, 26, 27, 28, 29; Sept. 1860-22; 1862-1, 6; 1863-3, 4, 9; 1864-6; 1865-6; 1866-4, 6, 64; 1868-70; 1870-40, 45; 1874-12
N. J., 1865-87
W. D., 1863-98
William (Rev.), Nov. 1859-26; 1862-1; 1865-4, 15
William D., 1863-4; 1865-4, 87
GUTHRIE
Dr., Nov. 1858-28; May 1859-47; 1864-74
Major, June 1858-42; Mar. 1859-38; May 1859-28; 1864-39; 1876-110

GUTHRIE continued
Abba, 1864-113; 1865-53
Abby (Mrs. Daniel Sherman), Mar. 1859-28; 1864-84, 85
Abigail (Mrs. Jonas Leonard), 1862-10; 1865-53
Anselem (Dr.), Nov. 1858-28; 1863-70; 1866-74; 1876-24
Eben (Major), Mar. 1859-39, 41; 1862-10, 12; 1864-45, 113; 1865-53
James, Mar. 1859-1
Nabby Herrick (Mrs. Eben Guthrie), 1862-10
P. K., 1863-4
Phineas K., 1865-5
Rachel, 1867-4
Roxana (Mrs. Henry Terry), 1862-10
GUTHRY
Anselem, June 1858-44
GUY
Mr., 1870-71
GUYSELMAN
Electa S. Jackson (Mrs. Jacob Guyselman), Mar. 1859-13
Jacob, Mar. 1859-13
GWINN
C. W., 1870-32
Lydia, 1870-32

HACKETT
Tracy W., 1874-60
HADDOCK
L. K., 1864-109
Ray, Sept. 1861-14
HADLEY
C., 1870-32
Edward B., 1874-110
HAGAMAN
_____, 1876-110
George, 1863-4
John, 1870-49
Nellie, 1864-3, 113; 1865-53
Nelly Burnet (Mrs. Thomas Hagaman), Mar. 1859-40
Thomas, Mar. 1859-38, 39, 40, 41; 1864-113; 1865-53
Tina, 1863-4
HAHN
John, 1864-28
HAINES
Asa, 1867-2, 5
Harry A., 1876-83
HAKES
N. S., 1870-12
Samuel A., 1868-5, 85
HALE
_____ Betts (Mrs. L. Hale), Nov. 1858-43
_____ Moore (Mrs. Hale), Sept. 1860-36
General, Sept. 1860-40, 44
Charles Seymour, Sept. 1860-44
L., Nov. 1858-43
HALL
Mr., Sept. 1861-48; 1868-17, 110
Mrs., 1863-6
Rev. Mr., 1876-47; 1878-109
HALL continued
A. C., Mar. 1860-28; 1863-6; 1868-8, 9; 1874-6; 1876-2
Alvin C., Nov. 1859-41; 1868-85
Asa, 1874-6
Betsey, 1864-58
David, 1866-103
Erwina, Mar. 1860-29
F. P. (Rev.), 1866-94; 1876-70
H. (Rev.), 1868-55
Horace, 1878-21
J. Prescott, 1866-103
John, 1864-53, 56, 63
John R., 1874-28
L. S., 1862-4; 1863-4; 1865-87; 1868-6, 8; 1874-6; 1876-3
L. S. (Mrs.), 1876-3
Samuel, 1863-73
Timothy, 1867-90
Virgil, Mar. 1860-27
Willard, 1865-17; 1868-66
HALLADAY
Daniel, Nov. 1858-17
E. P., 1870-32
Eli, Nov. 1858-16, 17; 1876-27
Horace, 1865-87; 1876-27
HALLAND
Mr., 1868-41
HALSWORTH
Elizabeth, Mar. 1860-32
HAMDEN
Hosea, Mar. 1860-22
HAMILTON
General, 1870-51
Mr., 1867-69; 1878-77
Rev. Mr., 1876-13
Sgt., 1878-83
Charles, 1876-115
Chester, Nov. 1859-11; Sept. 1861-3
D. Nov. 1858-2; 1861-3
Daniel, Mar. 1860-15; Sept. 1860-4, 6; 1865-87; 1867-90; 1868-71; 1876-101, 114; 1878-1
Emily Jane Brown, 1864-30
Frederick, 1876-115
J. Kent, 1876-115
James, Nov. 1859-11; Mar. 1860-25; 1863-41; 1865-5; 1868-115, 116; 1876-114
James Jr., 1864-30
John, 1865-6, 88; 1878-61
M. (Rev.), 1874-26
Margaret (Mrs. N. M. Standart), 1876-102
Mary, 1876-115
Moses (Rev.), 1878-3
Robert W., 1876-115
T., Nov. 1858-4
Thomas, May 1859-39, 40; Sept. 1860-4; 1862-40; 1876-101, 114
Thomas Sr., 1876-114, 115
Thomas Jr., 1876-115
W. L. (Mrs.), 1874-113
HAMLIN
_____, 1863-82
E. S., (Hon.), 1864-4
Hannibal, 1861-28
Sophia Perry (Mrs. Hamlin), 1863-82

HAMMER
Adam, 1876-82
HAMMON
_____, 1865-29
HAMMOND
_____ (Mrs. Amos Cuddeback), 1863-80
Angeline Sherarts (Mrs. David Hammond), 1863-81
Charles, 1870-63; 1874-61
David, 1863-81
G. W., 1868-112
John B., 1874-30
HANAWAULT
George L. (Rev.), 1874-23, 25
HANCE
Adam, Mar. 1860-41
HANCHETT
Dr., 1868-20, 21
HANCOCK
John, 1862-43, 44; 1866-99, 102; 1870-79
HAND
Polly (Mrs. Ira Bassett), Nov. 1859-10; Mar. 1860-23
HANDY
Elder, May 1859-30
Eli, Mar. 1860-28
HANES
_____, 1862-27
Sally Call (Mrs. Hanes), 1862-27
HANEY
Elder, 1864-77; 1868-75
James, 1863-58
John, 1864-55
HANFORD
Capt., Mar. 1860-39; 1864-66
Mrs., 1865-66
Rev., May 1859-21; 1861-22, 24
Alexander, Mar. 1860-27
Andrew, 1864-84, 85
Clarissa, Mar. 1860-27
D., Mar. 1860-31
Daniel, Mar. 1860-29; 1864-89
E. D., 1868-85
Edwin, 1864-85; 1868-41
Edwin D., 1868-41
Francis, Mar. 1860-27
George, 1864-84, 85, 86
Hannah, 1864-57
Harry, 1876-17
Hezekiah, Sept. 1860-23
Ida, Mar. 1860-31
J. E., Mar. 1860-27; 1863-4; 1865-87; 1876-122
Jabez, Nov. 1859-41; Mar. 1860-27; 1868-40, 41
James, 1864-85
Jesse E., 1874-86
Julia, 1863-6
Julia (Mrs. J. E. Hanford), Mar. 1860-27
William (Rev.), Nov. 1859-12, 33; 1865-51
HANKS
Elder, 1862-29
HANS
_____, Mar. 1860-9
HARD
Curtiss, 1863-73
James, 1878-26
HARDY
_____, 1864-33
Celia M. Hubbell (Mrs. Hardy), 1864-33
Ephraim, 1862-2; 1865-87
Walter B., 1865-87
HARKMAN
Mary L, 1868-86
HARKNESS
Dr., Nov. 1859-8; 1863-18; 1868-12
Adaline (Mrs. Israel Peters), 1876-122
Amos, June 1858-16, 30; Nov. 1858-2, 16; Nov. 1859-47; 1864-37, 38, 39; 1867-4
D., Mar. 1860-25
L. G. (Dr.), June 1858-30; Nov. 1858-2; Nov. 1859-8, 13; 1866-7
Martha Sample (Mrs. Amos Harkness), Nov. 1858-16; 1864-37
Nancy, 1876-127
S. V., 1864-29
HARMER
General, 1866-119; 1870-62
HARMON
C. L., 1865-110
HARNDEN
Drusilla, Mar. 1860-41
Hosea, Mar. 1860-36, 39, 41, 42
HARPER
Capt., 1861-43
Alexander (Col.), 1868-115
Archy, 1870-102
Joel, 1870-102
John, 1874-61
Rice, 1865-87; 1874-113
HARRINGTON
Capt., 1862-40, 43; 1863-94; 1867-72
Family, 1863-12
Judge, 1868-20
Frederick, 1876-83
Israel, Mar. 1860-21; Sept. 1860-15; 1863-91
Laura (Mrs. Stephen Crippin), Mar. 1860-24
M., June 1858-46
R., June 1858-46
Seth (Capt.), June 1858-46; Sept. 1860-13; 1867-72
HARRION
Charles, 1874-28
HARRIS
_____ Goodrich (Mrs. Amos Harris), Nov. 1858-42
Capt., May 1859-19
Mr., Mar. 1860-22; 1876-35
A., 1868-6
A. B. (Dr.), Sept. 1860-4, 6; 1868-61, 71, 81
Abagail (Mrs. John Monteith), Nov. 1858-42
Abby, 1861-18, 19, 20; 1878-19
Abraham, Nov. 1858-42
Agustus (Mrs.), 1867-64
Amos (Dr.), Nov. 1858-42
Anna, 1876-123
Anna (Mrs. Libens Steres), Mar. 1860-24; 1862-16
Betsey (Mrs. John Meeker), 1862-16
Betsey Morn (Mrs. Nathan Harris), 1862-16
Delpha (Mrs. Burbank), Nov. 1858-42
Emma (Mrs. Sanders), 1862-16

HARRIS continued
Henry, 1863-37, 39, 40
John, 1862-40, 1868-85; 1874-60
John C., 1876-84
Julia (Mrs. Marcus Johnson), 1874-36
Laura Brooks (Mrs. Richard S. Harris), 1863-82
Luther (Capt.), Nov. 1858-41, 42; Nov. 1859-30; 1861-18, 19, 20, 23; 1862-29; 1868-97
Mary J. (Mrs. Lysander Bly), 1867-87
Nathan, 1862-16
Richard S. (Laura Brooks), 1863-82
Ruth, Mar. 1860-32
S. R., 1867-13
Thaddeus (Rev.), 1870-108
Thomas, 1862-16; 1866-94; 1868-51
William, 1865-26; 1868-85; 1876-14; 1878-62
William H., 1876-83
William L., 1876-109
Ziba, Nov. 1858-41
HARRISON
General, Nov. 1858-3; Mar. 1859-16, 25; Nov. 1859-35; Mar. 1860-19; Sept. 1860-13, 31; 1861-42; 1862-3, 14; 1863-53, 59, 61, 66; 1864-13, 14, 15, 101; 1866-85, 108; 1867-21, 71, 72; 1868-25, 105; 1870-93; 1874-50, 51
Basil, 1874-45
Benjamin, 1863-5
Delpha Washburn (Mrs. John Harrison), Nov. 1858-43
E. B., 1866-2
Ebenezer B., 1874-59
Francis, 1866-87
James, Mar. 1860-29
John, Nov. 1858-43
Ruth A., 1866-94
T., Mar. 1860-31
William H., 1864-105
William Henry, 1878-26
HARROLL
N., 1866-88
HART
_____, 1865-32
Sgt., 1874-66
Emma, 1866-86
J. C., (Rev.), 1865-67
James, 1865-60
W. J. (Rev.), 1866-100; 1876-15
William (Major), 1863-95
HARTLEY
Rev. Mr., 1867-1
HARTPENCE
Alanson (Rev.), 1868-72
HARTSHORN-HARTSHORNE
_____, 1878-30, 31
Dr., Sept. 1860-22
Byron, 1878-36
Eleanor Baum, 1865-122
Mary, 1878-36
Wyatt, 1865-88
HARTUPE-HARTUPEE
Prof., 1866-6, 16
Cordelia, 1866-94
G. H., 1866-94; 1878-68
G. H. (Rev.), 1876-117, 118; 1878-68
HARTWELL
_____ (Mrs. Hiram Barnes), Sept. 1860-15
_____ (Mrs. Stephen Rodgers), Sept. 1860-15
_____ (Mrs. Isaac Smith), Sept. 1860-15
Elder, 1862-29
Ebenezer, Sept. 1860-15
Henry, Sept. 1860-15
John, Sept. 1860-15
Richard, Sept. 1860-15
HARVA
Rachel, 1865-88
HARVEY
Dr., 1864-101
Mr., 1868-60
G., Mar. 1859-1
Henry A., 1870-50
Thomas, Sept. 1860-16
HARWOOD
Elizabeth (Mrs.), 1865-5
Sally (Mrs. Havilah Smith), 1864-42
HASKEL-HASKELL-HASKILL
Eliza J., 1878-105
Harriet, 1864-113
J., Mar. 1860-28; 1874-28
J. (Mrs.), 1866-94
Leah Wilder (Mrs. Prince Haskell, Senior), 1864-113
P., Mar. 1859-41
Phoebe (Mrs. J. Haskell), Mar. 1860-28
Prince Jr., Mar. 1859-40; Nov. 1859-46; 1862-11; 1864-4, 113, 114; 1874-21
Prince Sr., 1864-113; 1874-21
Samuel, 1876-86
Susan Richardson (Mrs. Prince Haskell, Jr.), Mar. 1859-40; 1864-114
HASKINS-HASKIN
Capt., Mar. 1859-20
Mr., 1868-41; 1876-2
G. S. (Dr.), 1876-12, 13
George S., (Dr.), 1876-16, 19, 24; 1878-3
Isaac, Mar. 1860-28
Polly (Mrs.), 1867-95, 96
T. B., Mar. 1860-29
HASTINGS
George (Dr.), June 1858-46
John, 1874-74
Scott (Dr.), 1870-13
W. D., 1870-2
Waitsell (Dr.), Nov. 1859-29; 1862-40
HATCH
_____, Nov. 1859-47; 1874-101
Matthew, 1864-11
Moses, 1864-11
Palmer D., 1874-59
Samuel L, 1874-101, 118
Samuel S., Nov. 1859-47; 1861-13
HATHAWAY
Capt., 1874-45
Caleb, 1878-104
Caleb Sr., 1874-11
E. (Rev.), 1876-126
Mary, 1874-11, 93
Thomas, 1864-102
HAVEN
Samuel F., 1868-117

HAVILAND
Curtzy, 1864-75
Purdy, 1864-72
S., 1864-71
S. P. (Dr.), 1876-4
S. P. (Mrs.), 1876-4
HAWES
L. R., 1870-33
HAWTHN
Jacob, 1865-30, 50
HAWKERS
Francis S.,1876-97
HAWKS-HAWK
_____ (Mrs. Burwell Fitch), 1864-88
Mr., Nov. 1859-8
Mrs., 1864-88
John, 1865-46
Susanna (Mrs. Burwell Fitch), Nov. 1859-10; Mar. 1860-24
HAWLEY
Dr., 1865-70
Mr., Nov. 1859-16; 1861-22
Betsey Crocker (Mrs. Uriah Hawley), 1861-23
David, 1866-103
Eli, Mar. 1860-22
Elijah, 1866-79
Polly Ward (Mrs. Uriah Hawley), 1861-23
Sophia Keid Baldwin (Mrs. Uriah Hawley), 1861-23
T. R. (J.P.), 1867-95
Uriah, Mar. 1860-22; 1861-3, 23, 24, 25, 26; 1863-6; 1865-83
Zerah, 1870-5
HAYTON
George W., Mar. 1860-38
HAY
Jacob, 1863-37, 40
HAYDEN
Elijah (Lt.), 1876-78, 80
HAYES also see HAY
Gov., 1868-26; 1876-9, 10
Mr., 1866-75
Ebenezer, Nov. 1858-27
Richard, May 1859-37; 1878-80, 81
Seth, Nov. 1858-27
Titus, 1878-85
HAYHURST
J. W. (Rev.), 1864-4
HAYNES
A., 1865-2
Asa, 1862-5; 1867-74
Emeline (Mrs. Reuben Robinson), 1876-106
Nathaniel, Nov. 1858-16; Mar. 1860-21; 1876-106
Polly (Mrs. Levi Savage), Mar. 1860-24
William E., 1876-78
HAYS also see HAYES
Mr., 1866-52
Ebenezer, Nov. 1858-27; Mar. 1859-1; Mar. 1860-21, 22, 23
J. M. (Rev.), 1868-72
HAYWOOD
R. H., 1863-43
Russel H., Sept. 1860-18
HAZARD
Dwight, 1876-35
HAZARD continued
Ebenezer, June 1858-17, 1878-9
Samuel, June 1858-17; 1878-9
HAZELHURST
Samuel (Rev.), 1876-52
HAZEN
General, Nov. 1858-10
HEAD
O. W., Sept. 1860-39
HEADLEY
Bryant C., 1874-61
HEALD
Amos, Mar. 1860-27
HEALEY
James, 1874-61
Smith, 1864-71
HEATH
S. (Miss), 1862-3
William McK., 1867-107
HECHEWELDER-HECKEWELDER
Rev., 1865-99
David, 1862-64, 70
Johannah Marie, 1864-108, 1868-23; 1876-31
John, 1876-31
John Gotiel Ernestus (Rev.), 1862-64, 65, 74; 1866-96; 1868-23
Maria, 1864-9
Mary, 1866-96
John (Rev.), Mar. 1860-13
HEDGES
Henry C., 1870-51
James (Gen.), 1870-113
HEFFNER
Michael, 1876-84
HEGENEY
Charles, 1874-61
HEITH
_____, 1876-5
HEMENWAY
Mr., 1874-93
Daniel (Deacon), 1874-11, 93, 97
Frederick, 1874-60
Sally (Mrs.), 1870-11
T. B., 1865-88; 1870-21
HEMPSTEAD
George, 1876-84
Nathaniel, Mar. 1860-32
HENDERSHOTT
Dr., 1870-90
HENDERSON
Darius C., Mar. 1859-21; 1867-114
J. P. (Dr.), 1876-125
HENDRICK
Mrs., 1868-30
Barzilla S., Nov. 1859-39, 40, 41; 1868-33, 35
B. S., Mar. 1860-26; 1868-33
Horace, Mar. 1860-26
Jedidah (Mrs.), Mar. 1860-26
M. B. S., Mar. 1860-27
Sally (Mrs. B. S. Hendrick), Nov. 1859-40; Mar. 1860-26
Simeon, Mar. 1860-27
HENDRICKS
_____, 1866-116
Charles, Mar. 1859-29
HENDRIX
Mrs., 1864-6

HENDRIX continued
S., 1868-58
T., 1864-55
Thomas, 1864-53
HENDRY
A. W., 1862-1, 49; 1868-86
A. W. (Judge), 1878-2, 23, 61
Anthony, 1863-54
J. A. (Mrs.), 1868-86
John, 1863-53, 54, 55
Thomas, 1863-53, 54
HENDRYX
_____, 1864-112
Abram Dayton, 1870-20, 21, 22, 24
Anna (Mrs. Benjamin DeWitt), 1870-24
Anthony, 1870-22
Benjamin, 1863-56
Eunice Day (Mrs. John Hendryx), 1864-112; 1870-24
George, 1870-24
John, 1870-19, 21, 23, 24
Patty (Mrs. Isaac Sampson), 1870-22
Perwilla Stevens (Mrs. George Hendryx), 1870-24
Phebe (Mrs. John Corey), 1870-21
Sally (Mrs. John Fisher) (Mrs. Cummings), 1870-24
Sophia (Mrs. John Town), 1870-24
Thomas, 1863-58; 1870-22, 23
HENNESSIN
Louis, 1868-45
HENRY
King of England, 1870-20
Alexander, 1864-109
James, 1864-110
Reuben I., 1864-110
Sally (Mrs. James Henry), 1864-110
Samuel, 1864-111
William R., 1864-110
HENSEL
M., 1876-125
HENSHAW
Joshua, 1865-31
HENTHORNE
Sgt.-Major, 1876-80
HERMANCE
James, 1876-84, 86
HERON
John, 1876-54
Joseph, 1876-54
HERRICK
Mr., Mar. 1859-41; 1870-74
Abel, 1865-53
Ann (Mrs. William W. Beckwith), Mar. 1859-40
C. S., 1862-7; 1865-87
Catherine, 1864-113
Catharine Lott (Mrs. Ezra Herrick), 1865-53
Electa, 1876-122
Ephraim W., June 1858-31; 1865-53, 87; 1876-122
Ezra, Mar. 1859-39, 41; 1864-102, 113; 1865-53
Ezra Jr., 1865-53
Hannah D. Page (Mrs. Ezra Herrick), 1864-102
HERRICK continued
Lola Sutliff (Mrs. Lott Herrick), Mar. 1859-37, 40
Lott, Mar. 1859-37, 38, 39, 40, 41; Sept. 1860-42; 1862-84; 1865-53
Nabby (Mrs. Eben Guthrie), 1862-10
HERTEL
Fredrick, 1861-15
HERVEY
H. M. (Rev.), 1870-51
HESTER
Eliza W. (Mrs. E. Savage), 1864-103
J. S., 1878-5
John, 1862-5
John S., Mar. 1860-33, 36, 42; 1864-103; 1865-87
M. M., 1862-11; 1863-8; 1876-12
Martin, 1864-102; 1865-88, 118; 1870-39
Martin M., 1864-102, 103; 1865-87, 118
Mary M. Stough (Mrs. Martin Hester), 1864-4, 102; 1865-118; 1870-39
Mathias, 1864-103
Samuel, Mar. 1860-37; 1862-5; 1864-103
HEWIT-HEWITT
Mr., 1865-13
Abijah (Capt.), 1863-69; 1865-15
William, 1863-70; 1865-13, 15
HEWLITT
Mrs., 1874-51
HEWSON
L. W., 1870-32
HICCOX-HICKOX
Abraham, Nov. 1859-5
Chloe, 1874-51
George, Mar. 1860-22
Hannah (Mrs. John Dillingham), 1867-71
Harry, 1868-84
HICKS
Eliza, 1864-45
Frederick, 1864-45
Henry C., 1874-59
J., Mar. 1859-41
Jacob, 1864-45
Rachel, 1864-45
HIGBEE
J. B., 1876-13, 15
HIGGINS
_____, Nov. 1859-5
Judge, 1874-30; 1876-44
Aaron, 1861-25
Arvilla (Mrs. Charles Russell), 1874-105
Burr, Sept. 1860-17, 20
D., 1868-81; 1876-56, 58
Daniel, 1870-21
David, May 1859-22; 1861-46, 48; 1876-36, 44, 59
David (Rev.), 1861-46, 48
David (Judge), 1876-36, 44, 58
Dyar, 1874-6
Hannah Corey (Mrs. Daniel Higgins), 1870-21
Sylvester, Sept. 1860-16
HIGGINSON
G. M., 1865-104
HIGLEY
Widow, 1864-65
Abigail (Mrs. Samuel Smith), 1867-40

HILBISH
John, 1866-94
HILDRETH
Rev. Mr., 1864-5, 1868-110
Dr., 1874-3
Anna (Mrs. Robert Baker), 1865-24
J. F. (Rev.), 1870-39
S. P. (Dr.), 1866-92
Thompson F. (Rev.), 1864-43; 1870-2, 7, 9, 32; 1874-5
Udolpha Cherry (Mrs. T. F. Hildreth), 1864-43
HILER
Elizar, Mar. 1860-43, 44
HILL
Mrs., 1874-22
Amasa, 1870-102
B. L. (M.D.), 1865-120
B. M. (Mrs.), 1874-7
Benjamin, 1868-86; 1878-61
Benjamin L. (Hon.) (Dr.), 1862-21, 23; 1874-11, 93, 95
Betsey (Mrs. Isaac Hill), Mar. 1860-29
Charles, Mar. 1860-27; 1876-96
Daniel, Mar. 1860-22
E., 1868-8
E. P., Nov. 1858-35; 1862-25, 26; 1865-87; 1874-20; 1876-12
Edwin I., 1862-21, 23, 24
Elihu P., 1862-21, 23
Elizabeth, Mar. 1860-26, 27
Esther Strong (Mrs. Leverit Hill), 1868-34, 37
Fanny J. Tenant (Mrs. H. L. Hill), 1862-25
G. S., 1865-87
George S., 1862-23
H. L., Nov. 1858-3, 32, 34; 1862-25
Henrietta, 1862-23
Hester C. (Mrs. Ralph L. Cobb), 1862-23
Horace L., 1862-21, 23
Isaac, Mar. 1860-26, 29; 1868-34, 41, 58
Joseph, Mar. 1860-25
Justin, Mar. 1860-28; 1863-6
L., 1868-58
Leonard (Rev.), 1863-51; 1878-93
Leverit, Nov. 1859-39; Mar. 1860-27; 1868-34, 37, 41
Lucy Ann Tenant (Mrs. Edwin I. Hill), 1862-24
Mary Ann (Mrs. John Summers), Nov. 1858-43; 1862-21, 23
Moses, Mar. 1860-11
Nancy Duncan (Mrs. Joseph Hill), Mar. 1860-25
Noah, Nov. 1858-36; 1862-1, 22, 23; 1865-87, 119; 1876-46, 61
Noah Jr., 1862-23
Phoebe, Mar. 1860-28
Rachel, 1862-23
Reuben, 1862-2
S. (Mrs.), 1874-7
S. W., 1874-55
Sally Cobb, 1862-25, 26
Sarah C., 1862-23
Sophronia (Mrs. Harvey Fowler), 1876-113
HILL continued
Sterling N., 1862-23
Sukey Butler (Mrs. Noah Hill), 1862-22, 23
Thomas, 1864-64
William, 1864-64
William W., 1874-59
HILLHOUSE
James (Hon.), 1862-36
HILLS
W. M., 1870-31
HILTON
Family, 1865-74
HINCHEY
Patrick, 1876-83
HINCKLEY-HINXLEY
_____, 1864-110
B. H., 1862-8
Isaac, 1876-82
Jonas, 1864-110
Stephen, 1876-83
Thomas (Capt.), 1862-8
Violate Gibbs (Mrs.), 1864-110
HINDE
James, 1878-61
W. J., 1876-22
HINDMAN
Col., June 1858-24
David W., 1876-82
HINE
Mr., 1862-81, 85
Allen, 1862-18
Amos, June 1858-44; 1862-17, 18
Betsey Miner (Mrs. Jared Hine), 1862-17
Charles, Sept. 1860-27; 1862-17, 18
Daniel N., 1862-18
Elizabeth (Mrs. Samuel Lewis)(Mrs. Oliver Peake), 1862-18, 19
Henry, Nov. 1858-35, 37; 1862-17
Henry W., 1862-17
Horatio S., 1862-18
Jared, Nov. 1858-35; 1862-2, 17, 18
Julia (Mrs. S. T. Burnham), 1862-18
Laura F. (Mrs. White), 1862-18
Leman G., 1862-18
Lorenzo, 1862-18
Lucius A., 1862-18
Mary (Mrs. Theodore Lyons), 1862-18
Nathaniel, 1861-21, 24; 1862-17, 18
Polly Allen (Mrs. Amos Hine), 1862-18
Sally Osborne (Mrs. Sheldon Hine), 1862-17
Sheldon, 1862-17, 18
Theodore B., 1862-18
HINES
George, 1874-61
John, 1874-61
HINLEY
_____, 1874-34
HINMAN
Mr., Mar. 1859-9; Mar. 1860-22
Ann Mather (Mrs. David W. Hinman), Nov. 1858-17; Mar. 1859-36; Mar. 1860-25
David, 1874-88, 114
David W., Nov. 1858-17; Mar. 1859-36; Mar. 1860-14, 23, 25, 33, 37
George, 1874-7
George H., 1868-9

HINTON
Irvin, 1870-55, 56, 57
HISKEY
Reuben, 1876-84
HITCHCOCK
Mr., May 1859-13; 1866-116
Margaret (Mrs. Richard Falley), Sept. 1860-28
Peter, June 1858-24, 44; 1865-48; 1866-71; 1874-49
HOADLEY
Calvin, Nov., 1859-3; 1866-68
George, 1864-58
Lemuel, Nov. 1859-3; 1866-68
Sally (Mrs. Albert Terrell), Nov. 1859-3
HOAG
Jesse, 1864-74; 1876-4
Lucinda Stiles (Mrs. Reuben Hoag), 1868-67
Reuben, 1868-67
HOAK
Mr., 1874-17
Betsy, 1862-28
H., 1878-2
Henry, Nov. 1858-32, 33; 1874-17
John, Nov. 1858-32, 33, 34; 1862-28; 1876-91, 92
Sally, 1862-28
HOBBY
Blania (Mrs. Benjamin Kniffin), 1878-106
William, Nov. 1858-39
HODGES
_____, Mar. 1860-47
Lovina C. Parker (Mrs. Hodges), Mar. 1860-47
Lurene V. Parker (Mrs. Hodges), Mar. 1860-47
Luther, Mar. 1860-46; 1870-42
HOE
Richard M., 1865-114
HOEEK
Hervey, 1865-87
HOFFMAN
Mr., May 1859-22
Ezra H., 1874-59
George, 1866-9
Philip H., 1874-59
HOFSTATTER
George, 1870-11
HOIT
Asa, Sept. 1860-23
William T., 1868-86
HOKE
Rev. Mr., 1867-87
HOLBROOK
Rev. Mr., 1864-5
Peter, 1863-94
HOLCOMB
Family, 1861-1
Benjamin, 1874-59, 74
R., 1861-1
Rufus T., 1874-59
Thomas, 1874-47
HOLDEN
Samuel, 1862-51
HOLIDAY
Benjamin B., 1863-61, 63
HOLIDAY continued
Eli, Mar. 1860-22
Jesse, 1867-102
HOLLADAY
Mrs., 1867-7
HOLLEY
Mr., May 1859-17
HOLLIDAY
Abel, Sept. 1860-7; 1874-88
Eli (Rev.), Mar. 1860-22; 1863-71; 1865-48; 1874-81
Daniel, 1874-88
Eli, 1874-88
HOLLINGSHEAD
_____, 1876-12
HOLLISTER
_____, 1878-26
A., 1862-25
Anna, 1876-26
Ashley, 1865-87; 1876-26, 27
Cordelia, 1876-26, 27
Edwin, 1876-26, 27
George, 1864-29; 1866-36
Harvey, 1876-26
Hubbard, 1864-122; 1865-12
Jesse, 1876-26
Lucy Weatherlow, 1862-25
Mary Ann, 1876-26
Sally W. (Mrs. Hubbard Hollister), 1864-123
Sherman, 1876-27
HOLLOWAY
Ira, Mar. 1860-43; 1865-87
HOLMAN
George, 1870-55, 59
HOLMES
_____, 1878-27
Mr., 1878-27
Abram, 1868-6
O. W., 1866-41
Oliver Wendell (Dr.), 1868-115; 1876-64
Samuel, 1876-82
HOLSAUR
Charles, 1876-23
John, 1876-23
HOLTON
Susan S., 1866-94
HOMES
Alexander, 1870-95
HOOK
Henry, 1876-12
HOOKER
Mrs., June 1858-14
Charlotte (Mrs. Benjamin Washburn), Mar. 1860-25
John, 1863-55
Laura, 1864-7; 1876-4
Laura Anderson (Mrs. John Hooker), 1863-55
HOOVER
Joseph, 1876-86
Martin, 1876-84
HOPKINS
Capt., Nov. 1859-9, 10
Mr., Mar. 1859-9; Mar. 1860-22; 1878-85
Caleb, Mar. 1860-20
Constance, Mar. 1860-20

HOPKINS continued
Elizabeth (Mrs. Stephen Hopkins), Mar. 1860-20
Giles, Mar. 1860-20
J. M., 1867-74
Lamira C., 1865-88
Lavina (Mrs. Norman Carter), 1864-52
Moses B., 1865-88
Oceanias, Mar. 1860-20
P. R., 1874-114; 1878-63
Phillip R., June 1858-25; Mar. 1859-9; Mar. 1860-14, 33, 37; Sept. 1860-4; 1874-30; 1876-36, 39, 40; 1878-63
Stephen, Mar. 1860-20
HORACE
Seba, Nov. 1858-16
HORNER
_____ (Mrs. W. I. Bill), 1867-90
H., 1876-84
James, 1867-90
HORROCKS
John, 1866-88
HORSFORD
Daniel, 1868-11
HORTON
Milton, May 1859-26
HOSFORD
Mr., 1862-15
HOSKINS
_____ (Mrs. George H. Woodruff), 1870-36
Betsy, (Mrs. Zadock Weeks) (Mrs. George Woodruff), 1864-113; 1865-52; 1870-36
Charles, 1865-52, 88
George, 1865-52
Harriet, 1865-52
Hiram, 1865-52
John D., Mar. 1859-41; 1864-113; 1865-52, 53; 1876-110
Laban, 1865-52
HOSMER
H. L., 1863-3
Henry, 1874-51
W. H. C., 1874-77
HOSSLER
W. A., 1876-6
HOTCHKISS
J. S., 1878-3
HOUCK
John, 1862-81
HOUGH
John, 1865-87
Sabin (Rev.), 1876-51
HOUGHTON
_____ Esquire, May 1859-30
HOULTON
William, Nov. 1859-9
HOUSE
Family, 1868-59
Amelia, 1865-20
Clarissa, 1865-20
Harlow, 1870-12; 1874-2, 12, 18, 23
Harriet, 1865-20
J., June 1858-30; Nov. 1858-2
John H., 1876-83
Julia, 1868-43
Julia (Mrs. Jesse Taylor), 1865-18, 20
HOUSE continued
Julius, 1865-11, 14, 19, 20, 24, 88; 1867-73; 1868-44; 1874-10, 93
Lindsey, 1865-20, 88
Mary, 1865-20
Norris G., 1865-19, 20
Percy, 1865-21
Rhoda (Mrs. William Robinson), 1865-13
HOVEY
Simeon (Rev.), 1876-62
HOW
Mr., Mar. 1859-45
HOWARD
Capt., 1864-85, 89; 1868-81
Mr., 1870-11
Arthur, 1862-28; 1863-52; 1870-52; 1874-93
D. C. (Rev.), 1870-11
John, 1876-83
Lewis M., 1868-80, 81
Mary, 1862-28
Mary (Mrs. Elijah Bills), 1863-50
Simeon, 1863-61
W. H., 1870-10
Wakeful, 1862-28
William, Mar. 1859-1; May 1859-24, 26; 1863-51; 1865-87; 1870-52
William S., 1868-7, 85
HOWE
Baxter, 1876-55
Charles A., 1865-6
Francis, 1864-120
G. (Rev.), 1865-6
Henry, 1876-19
John, 1868-11
N. G., 1865-88
Rhoda (Mrs. William Robertson), Mar. 1860-24
Richard, 1874-61, 75
Salem T., 1876-55, 81
HOWELL
Mr., 1862-40, 50
HOY
Dr., 1866-61
Alma, 1864-43
Betsey Cole (Mrs. Walter Hoy), 1864-43
Bradley, 1864-43
Caroline Benson (Mrs. Walter Hoy), 1864-43
Charles, 1864-43
Elma, 1864-43, 44
Ichabod, 1864-43, 44
Mercy (Mrs. Addison Lee), 1864-43, 44
HOYT
A. B., Sept. 1860-1; 1863-3; 1864-9; 1865-7, 87
A. B., (Mrs.), 1866-94
Agur B., 1861-46
Betsey Merrifield (Mrs. Nathan Hoyt), 1870-23
Comfort, 1876-97
Comfort Jr., 1868-11
E. C., 1874-51
Elijah, 1868-106
I. B., 1874-12
Ichabod B., 1865-87; 1870-11
J. B., 1878-5
James, 1874-61

HOYT continued
John, 1864-3, 1865-87; 1874-11
Leonora, 1874-51
Lois, 1864-45
Lucius E., 1876-82
N. B., 1878-3
Nathan, 1870-20, 23
S., 1864-96
Simeon, June 1858-43, 45; Nov. 1858-20, 22; May 1859-23, 24; 1864-4; 1865-27; 1867-15, 75, 77, 88; 1876-97; 1878-16
Starr, Nov. 1859-41
Sylvester, 1876-86
W. B., 1865-87
W. R., 1868-79
Walter, 1864-43
William, 1874-61
HUBBARD
_____ (Mrs. Hubbard) (Mrs. John Thompson), Nov. 1858-36
Mr., 1862-17; 1870-18
Charles, Mar. 1860-2
E. A., 1865-88
Eli, Mar. 1860-23
Elisha A., Sept. 1860-19, 21
Ellen, 1876-113
Gurdon S., 1865-110
Holsey, 1870-19
Joseph B., 1870-19
L. S., 1876-12
Rhoda Ward (Mrs. Eli Hubbard), Mar. 1860-23
Roswell, 1865-12; 1868-44
Russel, Mar. 1860-32
Solomon, 1870-19
Thomas (Dr.), 1866-103
W., Mar. 1859-1
HUBBEL-HUBBELL
_____ (Mrs. Ebenezer Welch), 1864-31
Capt., Sept. 1860-43
Augustus H., 1864-28, 31
Bildad, 1864-35
Carmelia F., 1864-31
Caroline E., 1864-31
Carthaett S., 1864-31
Cecelia, 1864-28
Cecelia (Mrs. Forrest Messenger), 1864-31
Celia M. (Mrs. Hardy), 1864-33
Charles, 1864-31, 34, 35; 1865-6, 48, 87; 1868-13, 95
D., Nov. 1858-2
Deodatus, 1864-33; 1865-87
E. T., 1866-88
Eliza Ann (Mrs. F. H. Drake), 1864-33
J. C., 1865-6; 1870-32
Jonathan Green, 1864-31
Julius C., 1864-31
Laura (Mrs. Daniel Sherman), Mar. 1859-28; 1864-85
Loisa, 1864-28
Rebecca (Mrs. Charles Hubbell), 1864-35
Rebecca S., 1865-87
Rosamond M.,(Mrs. E. Read), 1864-33
Sally Barker (Mrs. Julius C. Hubbell), 1864-31
William, 1864-31
HUDSON
Deacon, Mar. 1860-16
David, 1870-101, 1876-76
William N., 1865-69
HUESTER
_____, 1878-93
HUFFMAN
D., 1864-53
Fanny Carver (Mrs. D. Huffman), 1864-53
Jacob, 1864-53
Peter, 1876-84
Phebe Carver (Mrs. Jacob Huffman), 1864-53
HUGHES
Mr., Nov. 1858-27; Sept. 1860-20; 1867-67; 1876-29
Elias, June 1858-37
Job, Mar. 1860-21
John, Sept. 1860-16
John W., (Dr.), 1866-66
Jonathan (Col.), 1870-51
Lizzie (Miss), 1864-118
Samuel, 1876-28
Thomas, 1866-90, 91
William R., 1864-118
HUGHS
Elias, June 1858-37
Job, Mar. 1860-48
John, Sept. 1860-16
HUKIL-HUKILL
Johnson, 1866-88
Sarah, 1866-88
HULBERT
Dr., Mar. 1860-37, 41
HULETT
A. W., Sept. 1860-45
Aurelia Underhill (Mrs. A. W. Hulett), Sept. 1860-45
HULL
J., May 1859-33
J. L, 1865-87
Jonathan, 1862-10
L. S., 1876-3
Pruella F., 1870-33
S. (Rev.), May 1859-33; 1876-61, 62
Sarah L., 1870-33
William (Gen.), June 1858-5, 23; Nov. 1858-14, 30, 47; Mar. 1859-3, 9, 26, 30, 32, 34, 45; May 1859-26, 38, 48; Nov. 1859-5, 14, 25, 28, 45; Mar. 1860-1, 2, 45; Sept. 1860-5, 11, 17, 30, 39, 40; 1862-40, 41, 82, 83, 94; 1863-67, 68, 89; 1864-56, 80, 98, 99, 115; 1867-81, 96; 1870-53, 54, 77, 86; 1878-80
HUMMELL
John S., 1876-84
HUMPHREY
_____ Burrell Treat (Mrs. Luther Humphrey), 1864-103
D., 1864-117
Dudley S., 1874-110
Luther (Rev.), 1864-103
William, Mar. 1860-9, 10; 1874-110
HUMPHREYS
Charles, 1862-44
HUNFORD
Andrew, 1864-84

HUNSICKER
Eliza (Mrs. Samuel Foote), 1834-40
HUNT
Major, 1874-114
Mr., Mar. 1859-27; Mar. 1860-44; 1864-35
Almon, 1864-28; 1870-32
Almond, 1864-35
B. T., 1876-70
Daniel (Rev.), 1866-103
David, 1874-116
Edwin, 1865-110
Eli, Sept. 1860-16, 17, 18
Hial, 1864-9, 35; 1865-6, 88
Hosea, 1864-35; 1866-6
Hosey, 1864-28
Jeremiah, 1870-108
Jonathan, 1864-35
Myron, (Rev.), 1878-3
Normal, 1870-32
Sally (Mrs. Truman Peck), Mar. 1860-24
Sarah M., (Mrs. James Williams), 1874-116
William, 1864-35
HUNTER
Col., 1863-25; 1874-63, 73; 1876-42
Major General, 1865-78; 1874-64
Mr., 1867-118
_____ Kinzie (Mrs. Hunter), 1865-78
C., 1868-9
H. B. (Lt. Col.), 1874-72
Isabel (Mrs. Ralph Waggoner), 1866-59
J. L. (Rev.), 1878-4
Samuel, 1870-51
William H., Nov. 1859-1; 1867-117; 1876-36, 42
HUNTINGTON
Gov., Nov. 1858-26; Sept. 1860-32; 1865-59
Judge, 1870-99
Mr., 1865-32
A., 1865-87
Daniel K., 1878-105
Erastus, 1876-16; 1878-2, 105
George C., 1862-6; 1863-5, 30, 39, 40; 1866-2; 1878-105
Joseph H., 1878-106
Polly Brown (Mrs), 1865-31
Samuel, Nov. 1859-24; 1862-53; 1864-105
William, 1864-64
HURB
_____ Esquire, 1865-70
HURBERT
_____ Brown (Mrs. William Hurbert), 1865-82
William, 1865-82
HURD
_____, Mar. 1859-25
_____ Caswell (Mrs. Hurd), Mar. 1859-25
J. C., Mar. 1859-21
Justus, 1876-58, 59
Walker, 1876-58
HURLBUT
_____ (Mrs. Samuel B. Lewis), Mar. 1860-18
Dr., Mar. 1860-37, 41
Mr., May 1859-31
Abel, Mar. 1860-40
HURLBURT continued
Henry, May 1859-20, 31; Mar. 1860-16, 18; 1876-36, 46
HURLBUT
Robert W., 1865-87
HURST
_____, 1867-78; 1876-3
HUSS
Mr., 1862-55
HUSTED
Capt., 1876-98
Mr., May 1859-19, 20, 25
Alonza, 1864-85; 1868-86
E. E., 1862-8; 1864-9; 1865-88; 1868-13; 1874-30
Edward E., 1876-71, 72
Edward L, 1874-59
Elmer E., 1874-59
Esbon, 1864-70, 71; 1876-34
S., June 1858-30, 45; May 1859-24
Samuel (Capt.), June 1858-45; Nov. 1858-20, 22; May 1859-21; 1864-87, 89, 111; 1867-88, 99; 1868-81; 1876-34, 98
Susan Fitch (Mrs. Alonzo Husted), 1864-85
HUSTIS
W. C. (Rev.), 1874-3
HUTCHINGS
Elias, Mar. 1860-24
Sally Smith (Mrs. Elias Hutchings), Mar. 1860-24
HUTCHINS
Capt., 1878-83
HUTCHISON
_____, Mar. 1859-22
Calvin, Mar. 1859-9
HUYCK
Henry, May 1859-28
Jacob, May 1859-28
Lester, 1876-10
R. T., Nov. 1858-23
Richard, Nov. 1858-23
William, 1865-87
HUYSUNG
Jacob (Lt.), 1876-78, 80
HYDE
Mr., 1868-34
Daniel, 1874-6
Garry, 1868-58
M., 1860-27; 1862-6, 46, 47, 89; 1864-112
Merritt, Nov. 1859-39, 42; 1868-33, 34, 58 1874-106
Michael, 1874-61
Monroe, Mar. 1860-27
William, 1874-25
William S., 1860, 9, 10

IDDINGS
Richard, 1865-30
IDLER
John, Mar. 1860-43

INDIANS
Beaver, 1866-67, 68
Between-the-Logs, 1868-114
Big Tree, 1868-114
Black Hawk, 1866-84
Camundime (Capt.), 1870-114
Catherine, 1867-12, 13
Chazee, 1865-49
Cherckerboy, 1866-54
Comstock, Seneca, Mar. 1860-47; 1865-26; 1878-27
Crane, Sept. 1860-8
David, Sept. 1860-4; 1868-70
George, 1870-60, 61
Grey Eyes, 1870-114
Hard Hickory, 1878-27
Hicks, 1868-114
Hubbell, 1870-71
John, Sept. 1860-47
John Amur, 1870-99
John Bigson, 1870-99
Johnny Cake (Capt.), 1870-114
John Mohawk, 1870-99
Johnson, 1867-61
Little Pine, 1878-42
Logan, 1866-108; 1870-57
Mishalena, 1865-116
Mononcue, 1868-114
Negonaba, Sept. 1860-14; 1865-44, 45, 46, 47, 48, 50; 1866-55; 1867-51; 1876-27, 32
Negonata, 1867-2
Negosheek, 1865-44, 45, 46, 47, 48, 50, 51; 1866-55; 1867-51; 1876-27, 32
Negossum, Sept. 1860-14; 1865-44, 45, 46, 47, 48, 50
Chief Ogontz, Mar. 1859-18; 1863-27, 28, 29; 1876-21; 1878-23, 45, 46, 48
Ogontz, Jim, 1864-113
Omick, 1862-76; 1865-69, 70; 1866-66; 1878-17, 23
Omick, John, Mar. 1859-3, 21, 22; May 1859-43; 1866-66, 67, 68, 69, 70, 71, 72, 73
Peacock, 1868-114
Pike (Capt.), 1866-89
Pimoacan, Sept. 1860-7
Pipe (Capt.), Sept. 1860-7; 1862-69
Pontiac, Sept. 1860-11; 1867-9, 12, 13
Porter, 1865-74
Red Jacket, 1866-51, 58, 112; 1868-61
Sausan, 1878-27
Seemo, 1865-57
Semo, Mar. 1859-3, 21, 22; Sept. 1860-47; 1862-76, 77; 1866-67; 1878-17, 23
Seneca, 1870-99
Seneca John, June 1858-37; Mar. 1860-35, 47, 48; 1864-86, 99; 1868-5; 1878-27, 45, 46
Sheboah, 1868-103
Shingwauk, 1878-42
Steel, 1878-27
Tecumseh, Sept. 1861-41; 1870-93, 101
Wabunnung, 1870-99
Wilson, George, 1870-99
Wagmong, 1874-38, 39
White Sides (Capt.), 1870-114
INGALLS
Addison, 1874-111
INGERSOLL
E. P. (Rev.), 1865-62, 63; 1868-55
J. E., 1876-72
INGHAM
_____ (Mrs. Simeon M. Crane), Nov. 1858-42
Mrs., 1861-2
S. R., 1866-94
INGLE
Jerry, 1876-84
INGLESON
Mr., 1864-32
INSCHO
Moses, 1863-61, 62
Robert, 1858-16; Mar. 1859-9
INSLEY
Henry, 1867-87
Samantha Bly (Mrs. Henry Insley), 1867-87
IRELAND
Job, 1878-10
IRONSIDE
George, 1862-88
IRVIN
Mr., Nov. 1858-16
W. W., 1864-84
William W. (Hon.), 1866-67, 70
IRVINE
Edward D., 1874-31
Thomas, 1865-12, 14
IRWIN
Peter, 1866-9
William Jr., 1864-117
William W., 1864-105
ISAAC
Benjamin, 1864-57
IVERI
Hexey Page (Mrs. Walter Ivery), 1864-33
Walter, 1864-33
IVES
Judge, 1864-63
IVORY
Clarissa, 1876-127
E., Sept. 1860-2
Erastus, 1864-102; 1876-127
Jabez F., Mar. 1860-36; 1864-102
Lexy Page (Mrs. Jabez F. Ivory), 1863-4; 1864-102
IVRY
Jabeth, Mar. 1860-24
Lucy Page (Mrs. Jabeth Ivry), Mar. 1860-24

JACK
John J., 1876-82
JACKMAN
Sarah F., 1865-88
JACKSON
Mrs., 1868-16
Amanda, 1868-86
Andrew (President), Mar. 1859-20; May 1859-22; Nov. 1859-1; 1864-118; 1867-73, 84, 116, 117; 1868-52; 1870-55
Barbara (Mrs. William McCord), Mar. 1860-23
C. H., Sept. 1860-1; 1863-3; 1865-88; 1870-12

JACKSON continued
Caleb J., 1878-2, 3
Charles, 1862-84; 1865-88; 1867-73; 1870-1
Deborah Townsend (Mrs. John Jackson), Mar. 1860-23
Electa S. (Mrs. Jacob Guyselman), Mar. 1859-13
G., 1874-94
James, 1878-62
John, Mar. 1860-23
Levi, Nov. 1858-41
Lucy, 1874-94
Martha, 1865-88
R. M. (Capt.), 1876-35
Sally Clock (Mrs. Tower Jackson), 1864-32
Tower, 1863-71; 1864-32; 1865-88; 1876-63
William, 1864-34
Zuba (Miss), Nov. 1858-39
JACOBS
Mr., 1866-10
Alfred, 1876-86
Elisha, (Rev.), 1874-43
JAKEWAY
A. Mar. 1860-31
JAMES I
King of England, 1862-31; 1863-3; 1867-14; 1870-16, 17
JAMES
Deacon, Nov. 1859-33
Family, 1863-12
D. A., 1862-2
Henry, 1862-40; 1864-3
John, 1863-4; 1868-45
Thomas, 1862-40; 1863-70, 92; 1865-5, 11, 88; 1868-43
JAMESON
Joseph E., 1876-82
JANETT
Charles, June 1858-19, 21
JANNSHILL
General, 1866-51, 57
JARRETT
Henry, 1865-88
JARVIS
Dr., 1874-50
Edward (Dr.), 1874-49
JEFFERSON
Mr., Mar. 1860-11; Sept. 1860-29; 1862-50; 1863-3, 32
D. C., 1861-7; 1862-2; 1863-6
Otis, 1861-2
Rebecca (Mrs.), 1861-2
S. E. (Mrs.), 1870-29
Thomas, June 1858-20; 1864-121; 1866-91
JEFFORDS
Mr., 1865-94
JEFFERY-JEFFREY-JEFFRY
Mr., May 1859-46; 1868-60
Mrs., 1868-60
H., 1865-58
Henry, 1865-48, 58
Thomas, Mar. 1859-1; Sept. 1860-4, 5
William, 1863-66
JELLEY
Mr., 1870-72
JEMISON
James, 1864-52
JENKINS
David, 1865-5
H. N., Mar. 1860-15
Warren, 1861-12; 1868-81
JENNEY-JENNY
Father, 1876-55
A. D., 1870-11, 33; 1874-2, 12
Abram, 1864-73
Benjamin, 1870-33
Hester Paul (Mrs. Obediah Jenney), Nov. 1858-22
Isabella (Mrs.), 1876-4
John, 1864-73, 78
Mordecai W., 1862-6; 1864-72, 73, 77
O., 1862-8; 1863-4; 1864-9, 73; 1867-8; 1868-13, 79, 80, 82; 1870-8, 9, 12; 1874-2, 10, 12, 18, 30, 37; 1876-5, 6, 10, 15, 52, 56, 58
Obediah, Nov. 1858-1, 22, 23; May 1859-20, 24, 34; 1864-25, 72, 73; 1865-7, 88; 1868-80; 1874-2, 88 1876-109
William H., 1876-82
JENNINGS
_____ Kline (Mrs. Seth Jennings), 1867-90
Mr., Mar. 1859-20; Mar. 1860-22; 1868-76
A., June 1858-39
Emeline, 1865-88
Emeline Kline (Mrs. Seth Jennings), Mar. 1860-19
Frank F., (Mrs.), 1868-3
H. N., Mar. 1860-15
Isaac, Sept. 1860-23
J. A., (M. D.), Sept. 1860-45
L., 1870-33
Lorinda, 1865-88
Maria, 1878-28
Mary Underhill (Mrs. J. A. Jennings), Sept. 1860-45
Milton, Mar. 1859-21; Mar. 1860-25; Sept. 1860-6; 1868-71
Nathan F., 1878-28
R. J., Mar. 1859-24; 1865-88; 1870-33; 1876-12
Seth, May 1859-20; Mar. 1860-16, 19, 48; 1861-45; 1866-2, 7; 1867-90; 1868-3, 4, 59, 61; 1870-12; 1874-2, 12, 15, 17, 18, 19, 20, 30, 31, 37; 1876-10
Wesley B., 1874-60
William, 1874-60
JENNISON
James, 1864-52
JEROME
Mr., 1862-55
JESSUP-JESSEP
____, 1876-112
Mr., Nov. 1859-15
Mrs., 1868-57, 58
E., Sept. 1860-18
Ebenezer, Nov. 1859-19; Sept. 1860-23, 30, 32
Ebenezer Jr., Sept. 1860-23

JEWETT
Rev. Mr., 1861-3; 1862-5; 1867-79
Charles (Dr.), 1876-73
E. R., 1870-33
Elizabeth R., 1870-33
H. J., 1864-106
JEWITT
J. R., 1868-55
JOHN
King of England, 1863-55; 1870-23
JOHNSON
_____, 1874-23
_____ Eaton (Mrs. Jonathan Eaton) (Mrs. Johnson), 1862-5
_____ (Mrs. David Underhill II), Sept., 1860-42
Capt., 1862-15
Dr., 1868-42
Lt., 1874-68
Mr., Mar. 1859-22; Nov. 1859-13; Mar. 1860-22; 1864-65, 96; 1867-78
Mrs., 1867-27
Rev. Mr., 1868-81
A. B., 1868-86
A. S., 1868-86
Abby Cahoon (Mrs.), 1865-63
Abigail (Mrs.), 1868-55
Allen, June 1858-41; 1867-26, 27, 28; 1868-83; 1870-49
Antoinette, Nov. 1859-42
Avaline, Nov. 1859-42
Barnard, 1867-28; 1874-100
Benjamin, 1867-106; 1878-61
Brahmin, 1864-56
Bryant, Sept. 1860-42, 43
Charles, 1876-82
Charles B., Nov. 1859-42
Christopher, 1865-13
David, 1864-3, 44
Edmon, May 1859-21
Eliza L., 1870-33
Ella O., Nov. 1859-42
Emily (Mrs. Charles C. Tupper), Mar. 1860-24
Enoch, Nov. 1859-42; Mar. 1860-28
Ephraim, Mar. 1860-23, 24; 1868-44
Flora, Mar. 1860-30
George, 1863-31
H. C., 1861-15
Henry D., 1874-61, 75
Horace, Sept. 1860-44
J. R. (Rev.), 1876-61, 62
James (Mrs.), 1865-14
Japan R., Sept. 1860-19
John, 1870-51; 1878-23
Julia, 1874-36, 93, 110
Julia Cook (Mrs. Melvin Johnson), Mar. 1860-40
Leonard, 1868-55
Leverett, 1867-78
Leveritt (Hon.), 1867-80
Levi, 1866-66, 69
JOHNSON continued
Lodisky, Mar. 1860-30
Lois, Mar. 1860-30
Louisa, 1867-28
Luther, 1865-88; 1874-110
M., Mar. 1860-27; 1868-58
Marcellia H., 1878-106
Marcus, 1874-36
Marcus (Mrs.), 1874-36
Marinda, 1868-9, 86
Marinda Bradley (Mrs. Marshal Johnson), Nov. 1859-42; 1868-34
Marshal, Nov. 1859-39, 42; Mar. 1860-30; 1868-34
Melvin (Capt.), Mar. 1860-40
Meritt, Mar. 1860-29, 30
Mortimer, Nov. 1859-42
Nathan Baldwin (Rev.), 1876-60
Philena, 1863-4
Phineas, 1876-100
Plinney J., 1865-11, 13, 21
R. C., 1865-88
Richard M., 1861-13; 1870-93
S. B., 1864-3
Sarah (Mrs. Joseph Parish,) Mar. 1860-24
Sarah Ann, Nov. 1859-42
Seymour, Nov. 1859-38; Mar. 1860-26; 1876-33, 34
Seymour A., Nov. 1859-42
Sherman A., 1874-60, 75
Victoria M., Nov. 1859-42
W., 1868-76
William, 1864-106; 1867-28; 1868-63; 1878-62, 63
William (Sir), 1864-109
William Samuel, June 1858-17; 1878-9
JOHNSTON
Ephriam, 1874-44
J. W., 1870-50
William (Judge), 1870-79
JONES
_____ (Mrs. Jessep), 1868-57
Capt., 1866-53
Major, 1866-72
Mr., Nov. 1859-37; Mar. 1859-47; 1866-116; 1870-114; 1878-61, 93
Alfa, 1876-10
Alvah, 1862-22
Alvah J., 1862-19
Amos, 1865-88
Amos B., 1862-19
Austin, 1878-62
Benjamin, 1866-68; 1868-57
Betsey (Mrs. Kelly), 1862-19
C., Mar. 1859-38
E. (Rev.), 1862-78
Ebenezer, 1874-99
Eleazer, 1864-38, 43
Franklin, 1878-106
Gabriel, 1867-8
Gideon, 1862-19
H. L., 1876-123
Hannah, 1862-19
Hannah Swilliken (Mrs. Lewis Jones), 1862-19

JONES continued
Henry, Sept. 1860-23
Henry C., 1865-88
J. A. (Gen.), 1874-58; 1876-10
J. P., 1862-7
James, 1876-83
John, 1876-86
Jonathan, 1863-82
Levi, 1862-19, 22
Levi H., 1866-94
Lewis, 1862-19
M. O., 1866-94
Mary, 1862-22
Moses, 1862-19
Pelina (Mrs.), 1865-88
Polly (Mrs. Green), 1862-19
Rebecca, 1864-45
S. M., 1867-74
Sarah E. Brooks (Mrs. Jonathan Jones), 1863-82
Selden, 1864-45
Simeon, 1876-10
JORDAN
T. M., (Mrs.), 1865-88
JOUETT
Charles, 1878-12
JUBENVILLE
J., 1863-37
JUDD
Ruth (Mrs. James Smith), 1867-40
Sarah Freeman (Mrs. Thomas Judd), 1867-40
Thomas, 1867-40
JUDSON
Mr., 1868-50
Rev. Mr., 1861-46; 1866-24; 1874-14
_____ Allen (Mrs. Charles P. Judson), 1863-80
_____ Barnum (Mrs. Rufus Judson), 1863-80
B. B., 1868-42
Benjamin (Rev.), 1864-56
C. P., Nov. 1858-39
Charles P., 1863-74, 80
E., 1867-27; 1876-103
Eli S., 1863-80
Everton (Rev.), Mar. 1860-48; Sept. 1860-3; 1862-29; 1863-71; 1865-120; 1868-69, 71
George, 1863-80
Hiram, 1862-18, 23
J. C., 1878-3
James C., 1868-50, 86; 1874-2, 12, 15, 18, 20, 30, 34, 37
Martin, 1863-73
Mary M., 1863-6
Rachel Reynolds (Mrs. Hiram Judson), 1862-23
Rufus, Nov. 1859-19; 1863-72, 73, 74, 80, 81
JUDSON continued
Verney, 1863-73
Wakeman, 1863-80
JUDY
John, 1874-43
JUMP
Joseph E., 1876-82
Nathan, 1876-82
JUNE
Charles E., 1863-3
Warren Z., 1876-83

KAIN
Thomas, 1866-96
KANE
Arminta Stiles (Mrs. Newton Kane) 1868-66
E. K. 1867-2
Newton, 1868-66
KEEFER
Dean, 1867-3
John, May 1859-21
KEELER
_____, 1862-16
_____ (Mrs. P. Reding), 1870-8
A., 1874-38
A. B., 1863-3
Almon, 1863-73, 80
Ami, Nov. 1859-7; 1863-3, 4; 1864-3; 1865-2, 88; 1867-2; 1874-14; 1876-46, 49; 1878-2
Arlicia Kellogg (Mrs. Keeler), 1862-16
Benjamin, 1864-57
Burril, 1874-105
Clarence L, 1878-106
Eri, 1863-4; 1864-3; 1865-88; 1876-47; 1878-106
H., Mar. 1859-13
I. M., 1863-5; 1864-2
Isaac, 1876-47
Isaac M., 1878-106
Jemima (Mrs. Luke Keeler), Nov., 1859-48
John, 1864-87; 1876-46
L., 1876-50
Lewis, May 1859-13, 18, 29; Mar. 1860-2; 1863-4; 1865-87; 1874-83; 1876-47, 50
Luke, May 1859-19, 21; Nov. 1859-48; Mar. 1860-9, 16; 1867-2; 1868-81; 1870-8; 1874-14, 88; 1876-46, 58, 59
Mary Amelia, 1876-47
Mehetabel (Mrs. Almon Keeler) (Mrs. Shephard) 1863-80, 81
Nathan, 1864-87
Rebecca, 1870-1, 1876-47
Sally, 1876-47; 1878-106

KEELER continued
Seth, 1864-87; 1865-2
William, 1878-106
KEELEWELDEE
_____, 1876-31
Mary, 1862-69
KEEP
John, (Rev.), 1864-7, 9, 21; 1866-3
KEESE
Sewell, June 1858-43; 1878-16
KEESEY
W. A., 1870-11
KEHL
Anton, 1876-84
KEIFER
J. W., 1870-94
KEITH
Anna, (Mrs. Robert Scott Southgate), Mar. 1859-39; 1862-10
C., 1876-61
Caleb, Mar. 1859-38, 40; 1862-11, 12
Carlos, Mar. 1859-39, 40; 1862-10, 11; 1874-21
Charles, 1874-28, 93
Elvira Pond (Mrs. Carlos Keith), 1862-10
Michael, 1870-51
KELBLE
Joseph, 1876-10
KELLAM
_____, 1876-98
KELLER
Leonard, 1874-59, 74
Matthew (Mrs.), 1874-108
KELLEY-KELLY
_____, 1878-15
_____ (Mrs. W. S. Webb), 1863-41
_____ (Mrs. Wright), 1863-25
_____ Pettibone (Mrs. Kelly), 1863-25
Capt., 1862-19
Mr., Mar. 1859-21; 1863-31; 1864-87; 1867-118; 1868-77
Mrs., 1863-25
Addison S., 1863-32, 33, 35, 36, 38, 39, 40, 42, 46, 47; 1870-12; 1874-2, 12, 20, 30, 37; 1876-10
Alfred, June 1858-24, 25; Mar. 1859-31; 1862-94; 1866-69, 76; 1867-47; 1870-96
Betsey Jones (Mrs. Capt. Kelly), 1862-19
Datus, June 1858-30; 1863-33, 34, 35, 37, 38, 39, 40, 41, 43, 44, 45, 46; 1864-122; 1866-77
Elizabeth (Mrs. Peter Kid), Mar. 1860-24
Fred K., June 1858-3
Fred'k, 1861-15
George, 1863-35, 36, 37, 42, 46; 1867-74
Henry (Mrs.)1867-90
Horace, 1863-36, 37, 38, 39, 40, 41, 47
I., 1863-42
Irad, 1863-33
Jackson, Mar. 1860-42
KELLEY-KELLY continued
James, 1865-102, 116
John, 1876-16; 1878-1
John (Rev.), 1862-92; 1868-93; 1870-12; 1874-2, 20, 30, 37; 1876-10, 70
Joseph, 1865-117
Julius, 1863-41, 46
St. Clair, 1866-96
Sarah (Mrs. Datus Kelley), 1864-122
Travis, Mar. 1860-42
W. D., 1863-37
William, June 1858-30; Nov. 1858-2; Mar. 1859-20, 21; 1868-44, 93; 1874-61, 75
William D. K., 1863-37
KELLOGG
_____ (Mrs. Philander Wilbor), 1867-90
Col., 1874-71, 72
Family, 1862-27; 1868-49
Lt. Col., 1874-67
Major, 1874-64
Mr., May 1859-19
A. F., 1865-88
Aaron, 1867-4
Amos, 1874-14
Arlicia (Mrs. Keeler), 1862-16
Asenath, Mar. 1859-42
Belden, Mar. 1860-21
C. C., 1862-3
Caroline (Mrs. Lyman Fay), May 1859-48; Mar. 1860-8, 23; 1864-22
Charles, 1868-3; 1874-14, 29
Dwight, 1874-60
Elizabeth S., 1876-16, 17
F. W., 1876-73
George, 1862-28
H. (Col.), 1874-58
Horace, 1870-33; 1874-59, 74
Horace (Capt.), 1874-61
Horace (Maj.), 1874-63
Horace (Lt. Col.), 1866-2
James, 1862-16
Lucy, Mar. 1859-36, 42
Lucy Dunham (Mrs. Martin Kellogg), Mar. 1859-42
Lydia (Mrs. John Anderson), Mar. 1860-25; 1862-16; 1874-29, 93
M., June 1858-30; 1864-114; 1870-2, 4; 1874-1, 16, 23, 25, 32
M. M., Nov. 1859-46
Mandane, Mar. 1859-36, 42
Margaret Wood (Mrs. James Kellogg Jr.), 1862-16

KELLOGG continued
Martin, Nov. 1858-2; Mar. 1859-36, 40, 41, 42; May 1859-27, 30; 1861-6; 1862-9; 1863-4, 7; 1864-4, 21, 113; 1865-3, 52, 88; 1866-2, 58; 1868-2, 13; 1870-6, 7, 8, 9, 50; 1874-2, 5, 12, 14, 15, 17, 18, 20, 21, 30, 31, 34, 35, 37; 1876-10, 15, 16, 61, 63, 126; 1878-1, 3
Martin M., Mar. 1859-9; Nov. 1859-47
Nancy Wood (Mrs. James Kellogg Jr.), 1862-16
Orsamus Sr., May 1859-47, 48; Mar. 1860-6, 7, 8; 1862-28; 1876-90
Orsmer, 1874-44
Philence, Mar. 1859-42
Polly Fay (Mrs. Martin Kellogg), Mar. 1859-36, 40, 42; 1865-88; 1874-21
Rebecca, Mar. 1859-36, 42
Ruth, Mar. 1859-42
S. O., 1862-21; 1865-88
Salvin, Mar. 1860-41
Susan A. (Mrs. P. Wilber), 1876-90, 95
Thomas, Mar. 1859-42
KELLUM
_____, 1878-93
KELSEY
Sarah, 1870-10
KELSO
George, 1874-44
KELSON
O. O., 1876-78
KEMPER
Bishop, 1874-45
KENNAN
Asa B., 1876-127
C. (Miss), 1865-3
C. L., 1870-33
Henry L., 1876-127
J., June 1858-30
Jairus, 1874-98
Jairus R., 1861-6; 1864-9; 1865-88; 1876-127
John, 1861-12, 48; 1864-3; 1865-88; 1868-81
Mary A., 1876-127
O. V., 1870-33
Thomas (Rev.), 1861-48
KENNEDY
William S. (Rev.), 1867-5
KENNELY
Betsey (Mrs. John D. Hoskins) (Mrs. Zadock Weeks) (Mrs. George H. Woodruff), 1865-52, 1870-36
KENNEY
Joseph, 1866-35
O. V., 1870-33
William (Capt.), 1876-77
KENSETT
_____ (an artist), 1865-60
KENT
_____, 1876-91
Mr., 1868-48
Charles, 1863-3, 1876-70
KENTON
Sarah (Mrs. John McCord), 1865-117
Simon (Gen.), 1865-117, 1866-106, 110
KENYON
Francis, 1876-36, 42
KERR
Daniel, Mar. 1860-22
L., 1870-108
Lewis, 1870-108
S. S., 1870-108
KESTER
George (Dr.), 1870-11
H. (Dr.), 1870-33
KETCHUM
Cornelius, 1876-10
Hezekiah, 1863-64
Morris, 1865-60
KEYES
_____ Sherrick (Mrs. Harrison Keyes) (Mrs. Perry Keyes), 1870-24
Mr., 1865-56
C. M., 1874-58
Charles M., 1874-60
Elizabeth Scribner (Mrs. Francis Keyes), 1863-55; 1870-24
Francis, Nov. 1858-35; 1863-55, 72, 73; 1868-84; 1870-20, 23, 24, 25
Harrison, 1870-24
Mary (Mrs. Lewis Merrifield), 1870-24
Perry, 1870-24
Suel, Nov. 1858-37
Thomas J., 1874-61
Ursula (Mrs. J. O. Merrifield), 1870-24; 1874-109
KID
Elizabeth Kelley (Mrs. Peter Kid), Mar. 1860-24
Peter, Mar. 1860-24
KILBORN-KILBOURNE-KILBURN
_____, 1876-94
Mr., 1876-94
Emily, 1862-28
F. M., 1878-93
H., 1878-26
H. C., 1876-36
Hector, Mar. 1859-20; 1866-75; 1868-44
Herbert, 1876-35, 36
James, 1868-76
James (Col.), Nov. 1858-46; 1862-94; 1868-76; 1870-54
Josiah, Nov. 1858-36; May 1859-24; Sept. 1860-27; 1863-51, 52; 1870-51, 52
L., 1865-88; 1870-25
Levi, 1864-5, 7; 1876-75
Lucinda, 1862-28
Stephen, 1870-27

KILBY
Marah, 1878-10
KILE
Cathrine (Mrs. Levi R. Sutton), June 1858-37
Peter, June 1858-38
KILLGORE
C., 1870-108
KILLS
Father, 1870-90
KIMBALL
Moses, Sept. 1860-20; 1867-27; 1868-79, 80, 81
KIMBERLY
Esther (Mrs. Orsamus Kellogg), 1876-90
KING
_____, 1862-23; 1866-116
Mrs., 1867-102; 1868-5, 110
Aleck, 1874-114
Charles, Nov. 1859-42; Mar. 1860-30
Henry, 1863-59; 1876-35
Hezekiah, 1866-67
J. T., 1868-57
Jane Reynolds (Mrs. King), 1862-23
Joseph, 1865-88
Julia Ann, 1870-33
L. D., 1870-21
Leicester, 1864-106
Mary Ann, 1870-33
Nancy, (Mrs. Charles King), Mar. 1860-30
Ned (Capt.), 1870-95
Parmelia, 1866-94
Permelia Clock (Mrs. William King), 1864-32
Susan (Mrs.), 1874-114
W. H., 1866-94
Williard H., 1876-84, 86
William, 1864-32; 1866-116
KINGSBURY
Judge, Sept. 1860-35, 38
Mr., 1863-10; 1864-40
J., 1864-38; 1874-102
Jeremiah, 1864-45
Jesse, 1865-88
Lemuel (Rev.), Nov. 1859-41; Mar. 1860-28
Lucy, 1874-102
Sally, 1864-45
KINGSLEY
Bishop, 1874-14
Mr., 1865-3; 1866-4
Charles S., 1870-26
Peter, 1870-20,23, 25
KINNEY
Dedamus (Dydimus) (Didymus), Mar. 1859-1; Sept. 1860-4
E. S., 1874-3
E. S. (Mrs.), 1870-8
E. W., 1867-6
Elijah, Mar. 1859-1, Sept. 1860-4
Elisha, 1865-25
Elizabeth (Mrs.), 1876-14, 127
George E., 1876-84
Stephen, Mar. 1859-1
KINSLEY
_____ (Mrs. Dr. Van Vechten), 1870-26
Edward E., 1876-4
Lucia, 1876-4
Lydia Merrifield (Mrs. Peter Kinsley), 1863-55; 1870-23, 48
Mary (Mrs. Belding), 1870-26
Peter, 1863-55, 56; 1870-20, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 48; 1876-4
KINSMAN
_____, 1878-82
Mr., 1865-29
Frederick, Mar. 1860-33; 1865-31
John, 1865-31
Thomas, Mar. 1860-33; 1865-31
KINZIE
_____ (Mrs. Hunter), 1865-78
John, 1865-78
John H., 1865-110
John H. (Major), 1865-78
KIRBY
Edmund (Col.), 1870-77
Ephraim, 1870-77
R. M., (Major), 1870-77
William H., Mar. 1860-40
KIRKER
Thomas, 1864-105
KIRTLAND
Mr., 1868-55
J. P. (Prof.), 1862-94; 1865-62, 63
Tinchance (Esq.), Nov. 1858-25
KISER
John, Nov. 1858-14; Mar. 1859-13
KITCHEN
Maria (Mrs. Joseph Brooks), 1863-83
KITTREDGE
Dr., 1876- 53
Frederick, 1876-121
William F. (Dr.), 1868-80; 1870-5, 13, 33; 1876-58, 121
KLINE
_____ (Mrs. John Smith), 1867-90
Mr., May 1859-45; 1868-61
Emeline (Mrs. Seth Jennings), Mar. 1860-19; 1867-90
Margaret Minuse (Mrs. William Kline), 1868-3
William, 1868-3
KLIPPART
J. H., 1876-125
KNAPP
_____, 1870-19
Brundage, 1864-74
Eunice Case (Mrs.), 1870-19
John, 1870-33
Samuel, Mar. 1859-9
Sumner, 1863-37
W. A., 1868-86
KNAVEL
Henry, 1864-64
KNICKERBOCKER
Stephen, Mar. 1860-30
KNIFFEN-KNIFFIN
_____ Rusco (Mrs. Daniel Kniffin), 1864-74
Amy (Mrs. Aldrich Carver), 1864-53

KNIFFIN continued
Benjamin, 1864-74; 1876-4, 5, 1878-106
Charity (Mrs. Charles Brady), 1864-77
Daniel, 1864-74
Deborah, 1864-78
James, 1864-76, 78
John, 1864-80
KNIGHT
Charles G., 1874-61, 75
George A., 1865-88; 1866-2
J. S. R., 1865-88
Louisa B., 1865-88
Simon, 1876-21
Thomas, 1874-55
KNOBBLE
Anton, 1876-83
KNOWLTON
Mrs., 1863-37
Calvin, 1867-95
George, 1876-36
KNOX
Joseph B., 1876-82
Raynol, 1876-112
KOCH
Mr., May 1859-9
KORNER
William S., 1876-84
KOUNTZ
David, 1876-78
KRISS
Solomon, 1874-61
KRIDER
F. W., 1867-2
KRIDER
_____, 1868-3, 4
_____ Pease (Mrs. Kryder), 1868-3, 4
KRISTER
Sarah T. T., 1876-127
KUHN
Henry,(Dr.), 1870-50
Peter, 1876-84
KUHNEL
George, 1876-82
KUSEY
John, 1864-65
KUTCHER
George, 1874-59
Louis, 1874-59
KUYKENDALL
_____, 1866-55
KYES
Mr., May 1859-33
KYLE
John, (Rev.), 1862-1
William, 1868-12
KYSER
Nicholas, 1868-7

LABARRE
J. E., 1862-6; 1866-2
John E., 1864-83
Joseph, 1864-84, 86, 87
LABARRIE
John E., 1865-89
LABORIE
Mrs., 1863-6
LABORIE
Marilla (Mrs.), 1863-6
LADD
Daniel (Deacon), 1865-70
Julia A. (Mrs.), 1876-4
William M. (Dr.), May 1859-36
LAFAYETTE
General, June 1858-11; 1864-118; 1866-56
George Washington, 1866-56
LAFERE
John, 1874-61
LAGNWORTHY
I. P. (Rev.), 1862-95
LAGORE
John, Mar. 1860-37
LAIRD
Elder, 1870-44
LAKE
Elisha, 1866-59
Frances, 1866-59
Godfrey, 1864-64
Lucretia, 1866-59
Lucretia Buck (Mrs. Peter Lake)
(Mrs. Israel Waggoner), 1866-59
Mary (Mrs.), 1868-24
Peter, 1866-59
Sophia, 1866-59
LAKES
George, 1868-86
LAMHOE
W. H., 1876-77
LAMMOT
L. A., 1868-26, 113
LAMPMAN
D., 1865-89
LANE
_____, 1874-113
Mrs., 1874-117
_____ Anderson (Mrs. E. S. Lane),
Mar. 1859-21
E., 1874-30; 1876-31, 46, 47, 48, 55, 59
E. (Mrs.), 1876-55
E. S. (Dr.), Mar. 1859-21; 1867-117
Eben, 1876-46
Ebenezer (Capt.), 1867-49
Ebenezer (Deacon), 1867-49
Ebenezer (Judge), June 1858-6, 15, 25;
May 1859-21; Mar. 1860-26; 1862-6, 7, 54;
1863-10; 1865-43, 48, 89; 1867-6, 49, 50,
51, 52, 53, 54, 55, 56, 57, 58, 59;
1868-80, 81; 1870-60, 61; 1874-43, 115;
1876-7, 36, 39, 41, 46, 49, 55, 58, 109;
1878-18, 63, 98
Frances Ann Griswold (Mrs. Ebenezer Lane),
1867-50, 51
Marian Griswold Chandler (Mrs. Ebenezer Lane),
1867-49
Solon, 1874-59
W. G., (Esq), 1874-8
William, 1867-49
LANG
William, 1870-50
LANGDON
_____, 1866-116
LANTRY
John, 1876-77
LANTZ
George, 1865-73

LAPHAM
Mr., 1861-14
LAPPIN
Bill, 1874-38, 39
LARNARD
Edwin L, 1865-110
LASALLE
Robert, 1868-45
LATHAM
L. H., 1870-33
W. L., 1865-6; 1870-33; 1874-32
LATHROP
Mr., Mar. 1859-27
Mrs., 1874-28
Rev., 1876-107
D. W. (Rev.), 1868-71
Daniel W. (Rev.), May 1859-22; Sept. 1860-6; 1861-46
Margaret M., 1866-88
LATIMER
Mr., 1867-57, 60; 1868-98
Cortland L., 1861-46
P., Mar. 1859-41; 1865-2; 1868-79
Picket, Mar. 1860-22; 1861-48; 1865-31; 1868-79; 1874-30; 1876-36, 41
LAUBENHEIMER
Fred, 1876-10
LAUGHLIN
_____, 1862-27; 1876-91, 92, 93
Anna, 1862-28
David, 1868-86
George M., 1870-50
Harriet Call (Mrs. Laughlin), 1862-27
John, Nov. 1858-32, 34; Sept. 1860-4; 1862-28, 81
Milton, Nov. 1858-34
Patrick, 1874-61
Polly (Mrs. Lazarus Young), Sept. 1860-6
Rebecca, 1862-81
LAURENS
L., Mar. 1860-22
LAURONGE
Mr., 1870-72
LAWLESS
William, Mar. 1860-30
LAWRENCE
Celista, 1876-127
Clarinda, 1870-33
Clarinda Bly (Mrs. Ebenezer Lawrence), 1867-87
E. C., 1878-5
Ebenezer, Mar. 1860-37, 38; 1867-87; 1870-33
Elizabeth (Mrs.), Mar. 1860-31
Friend (Capt.), 1862-3
Horace, 1874-60
Loretta (Mrs. Nathan Sutliff), Mar. 1859-40
Miner, Sept. 1861-48; 1865-88; 1876-116, 117
S. E., (Mrs.), 1868-7
Samuel, 1878-106
Samuel L., 1878-106
Thomas, 1878-1, 106
Timothy, 1876-127; 1878-3
LAWRENCE continued
Wilder, Mar. 1860-35, 36, 37, 38, 40, 45; 1862-5; 1865-89
LAWSON
G., Mar. 1860-10
LAWTHER
Alexander, Nov. 1859-39; Mar. 1860-27
Betsey (Mrs. Alexander Lawther), Mar. 1860-28
LAWTON
_____, 1876-98
LAY
W. E., 1868-86
LAYLIN
Mr., May 1859-28; 1876-92
Almira Felt (Mrs. Wesley Laylin), 1867-73
Charles, Nov. 1858-36, 37; 1878-107
Elvira, 1878-107
Jemima (Mrs. John Laylin), Nov. 1859-35
John, Nov. 1858-2, 36, 37; Mar. 1859-37, 40; Nov. 1859-35, 45; 1862-81, 82, 83, 84, 85; 1863-3; 1878-2, 107
L. C., 1876-13, 15; 1878-21
Marie E., 1867-74
Olive Clark (Mrs. John Laylin), Mar. 1859-37, 40; 1862-84
Sally, Nov. 1858-37; 1862-83; 1878-107
Sarah (Mrs. Edward Wheeler), Nov. 1859-35; 1862-84
Wesley, 1867-73
LEACH
Mr., Nov. 1858-39; 1870-72
Abel, 1862-28
Abigail, 1862-28
Bebe, 1862-28
James, Mar. 1859-1
LEASE
E. S.,1867-75
LEATHERBY
Rebecca, 1866-88
LEAVELL
Benjamin, 1865-73
LEAVENWORTH
T. M. (Rev.), 1863-71; 1876-63
LEAVITT
John, 1867-102
LEBARRE
James, Nov. 1858-2
LEDERER
Mr., 1866-15
LEDYARD
Col., Nov. 1858-5
Mr., 1870-18
Nathaniel, 1863-55; 1870-18
William (Colonel), 1870-18
LEE
Dr., 1876-53
Judge, May 1859-19
Mr., Mar. 1859-32; Sept. 1860-43; 1866-74; 1870-68
Addison, 1864-44
B., 1864-38
Benjamin, 1864-43
David, Mar. 1860-8, 9; 1876-97
Edward, 1865-89
Elias, June 1858-24; 1870-87; 1878-18
Ezra, 1870-74; 1878-32

LEE continued
Jonas, Sept. 1860-16; 1865-57
Joseph (Lt.), 1862-2
Mercy Hoy (Mrs. Addison Lee), 1864-44
Noyes S., 1874-59
R. E., 1867-2
Sulley, 1865-89
Thomas, 1876-82
LEECH
Eliza, 1862-81
LEEPER
Mr., 1864-114
LEET
W., 1868-86
William (Rev.), 1868-10
LEETE
Gov., 1865-65
John, 1865-65
Rhoda (Mrs. Noah Wood III), 1865-65, 66
LEEZEN
Calvin, Mar. 1860-23
LEFEVRE
John, 1868-86
LEFFENWELL
Christoph, Mar. 1860-32
LEGGETT
Charles (Dr.), 1876-24
LEINBAUGH
John, 1876-84
LEISTER
Edward, Mar. 1860-20
LEITER
Abram, 1876-14
LELAND
Mr., 1876-92
LEMMON-LEMON
J. M. (Capt.), 1868-9, 10, 11, 86
W. B., 1868-86
LENOX
Duke of, 1867-14
LEONARD
Mr., 1867-50
Mrs., 1861-25
Abigail (Mrs. Abram P. Read) (Mrs. Ezra D. Webb), 1864-113
Abigail Guthrie (Mrs. Jonas Leonard), 1862-10; 1865-53
Asa, 1865-4
Calvin, 1861-26
H., Sept. 1860-2
Jonas, Nov. 1858-2; Mar. 1859-41; 1862-10, 11, 12; 1874-36, 93, 111
Newton, 1876-86
Sophia (Mrs. Josiah S. Pelton), 1863-81
LEPPENWELL
William, Mar. 1860-33
LESLIE
_____, 1878-84
Jonathon (Rev.), 1865-69, 70
LESTER
Mr., Mar. 1860-11
Benajah, 1878-10
Marion, 1874-59
LETT
Dick, 1878-62
LETTS
Peter, 1874-60, 75
LETTS continued
William, 1874-59
LEUTS
Seymour E., 1874-60
LEWIS
Com., Mar. 1860-11
Esq., Mar. 1859-31; 1874-7
Mr., Mar. 1859-41, 48
Mrs. (Mrs. Samuel B. Lewis), June 1858-32, 33, 35
Alexander, 1862-4
Amy, 1876-46
Andrew J., 1874-61
Angeline (Mrs. Orlando F. Curtiss), June 1858-32; 1874-94; 1876-46
Ann, 1870-33
Baldwin, 1862-19
Betsey Ann, 1874-94; 1876-46
C. F. (Rev.), 1874-5, 7; 1876-3
Charles, 1862-19; 1876-46
Charles F. (Rev.), 1861-6, 33; 1862-6, 8, 47, 89; 1863-2, 4, 5, 7, 9; 1864-1, 6, 7, 8, 9, 112; 1865-2, 89; 1868-6, 7, 9; 1874-108; 1876-3
Clarinda, 1862-19
David (Capt.), 1876-77, 78, 79, 80
Deborah S., 1865-89
Elizabeth Durham (Mrs. Jonah Lewis), Mar. 1860-24
Elizabeth Hine (Mrs. Samuel Lewis), 1862-18, 19
Hannah (Mrs. Philo Wells), Nov. 1858-42
J. O., Mar. 1860-28
James, 1864-89
Jonah, Mar. 1860-24
Jonas, Sept. 1860-16
John M., 1865-27
L. H., 1870-33
L. W., Mar. 1859-25
Luther, 1862-19
Lyman, 1862-19
Margaret (Mrs. William Gibbs), 1874-10,96
Mary (Mrs. Raws), 1862-19
Nathan E., 1862-23
Ozias, 1870-77
S. B. (Mrs.), 1874-80
Samuel, 1862-18, 19; 1864-7, 9, 106; 1865-88
Samuel (Mrs.), 1874-82
Samuel B., June 1858-32, 33, 35; Mar. 1859-41; May 1859-26, 28; Mar. 1860-18; 1862-10, 19; 1863-4, 6; 1865-50, 89; 1874-7, 8, 10, 80, 81, 82, 92, 94, 108; 1876-33, 46, 59; 1878-19
L'HOMMEDIEU
S. S., 1864-117
LIGHT
Joseph, 1864-64
LILLEY
Edward, Mar. 1860-20
LILLIENTHAL
Dr., 1866-14
LINCOLN
Mr., 1864-15
Abraham, 1861-28; 1867-2
Joseph, 1863-37

LINDER
Conrad, 1874-111
LINDSEY
Allen, Sept. 1860-39
Aurilla, Mar. 1860-40
Charles, 1863-91, 92; 1868-81, 1878-34
Dan, 1864-8, 67
Loab, Mar. 1860-37
LINDSLEY
Allen, 1870-33; 1878-107
Charles, Sept. 1860-21, 22
M. (Mrs.), 1865-88
Marcus, 1868-114
S. D., 1865-88
W. D. (Hon.), 1865-10, 13, 88
W. O. (Gen.), June 1858-30; Nov. 1858-2
LINGERFELT
Elizabeth, 1864-64
LIPPART
J., 1861-15
LIPPENWELL
Christopher, Mar. 1860-32
LIPSETT
Michael, 1865-88
LISCOMB
Albini, 1866-5
LISLE
_____, Mar. 1859-10
Louisa Beymer (Mrs. Lisle), Mar. 1859-10, 14
William, 1876-83
LITTEL
William, 1870-63
LITTLE
E., 1876-10
Francis, 1874-59
LITTLEFIELD
Judge, 1864-34
Mr., Mar. 1859-38, 41
Celia (Mrs. Deodatus Hubbell), 1864-33
Diantha, 1864-28
Frank, 1874-61
Minerva, 1864-28
Sanders, Mar. 1860-21, 23, 24; 1864-28, 35
LLOYD
Elizabeth (Mrs. John Clark), 1878-101
LOCHER
Charles A., 1876-82
LOCKLEY
Albert, 1874-61
LOCKWOOD
_____, 1874-17
Capt., 1864-107
Col., 1876-81; 1878-35
Mr., May 1859-17, 18; 1870-87; 1874-84
Mrs., 1874-84; 1878-31
_____ Cannady (Mrs. Eleazer Lockwood), 1865-21
Abram, Sept. 1860-23
Amanda, 1865-21
Amelia, 1865-21
Amelia Chichester (Mrs. Henry Lockwood), 1866-81
Betsy, 1865-21
Bigelow, 1865-21
LOCKWOOD continued
Brown, 1878-32, 35
E., 1870-65
Ebenezer, Sept. 1860-23
Edward, 1878-32
Eleazer, Mar. 1860-23; 1865-12, 21; 1866-44
Eliza (Mrs. D. Gibbs), 1866-81
Elizabeth, 1864-57
Elizabeth (Mrs. David Gibbs), Mary 1859-29; 1874-83
Esther (Mrs. Saunders), 1866-81
F. G. (Mrs.), 1867-90
George, Nov. 1859-36; Mar. 1860-14, 15; 1861-45; 1866-81; 1867-90
H., 1861-3
Henry, June 1858-33; Nov. 1858-2; May 1859-25, 29; Mar. 1860-16, 17; Sept. 1860-40, 42; 1862-10; 1863-54; 1864-88; 1866-3, 81; 1868-97; 1874-83
Henry (Mrs.), 1874-83
J. C., 1861-3; 1870-33
James, 1865-21
James C., 1867-90
Jane, 1870-33
John, 1864-57
L., May 1859-29
L. C., 1870-33
Lucretia, 1865-21
Lucy, 1865-21
Lucy Wood (Mrs. Eleazer Lockwood), Mar. 1860-23
Mary (Mrs. Benedict Lockwood), 1866-81
Morgan, 1865-21
Nancy, 1865-21
Orra, 1865-21
Polly Ann (Mrs. Lyman Taylor), 1865-21
R., 1861-45; 1865-52
R. S., (Rev.), 1876-70
Ralph, Nov. 1859-36; Mar. 1860-14; Sept. 1860-6; 1866-81; 1868-71
Robert, 1865-21
Rusha, 1865-21
S. M. (Col.), 1868-81; 1878-30, 31, 33
Sarah, 1874-83
Sarah (Mrs. Marvin Lockwood), 1866-81
Sarah (Mrs. Stephen Lockwood), 1866-81
Semantha, 1865-21
Stephen, May 1859-25, 29; 1866-81; 1874-83; 1876-47
Stephen Jr., 1866-81
Stephen H., May 1859-25, 28
Wickliffe, 1878-32
William, 1865-21; 1876-16; 1878-1
LODLEY
S. W., 1866-88
LOGAN
James K., Mar. 1859-35
LONG
Dr., Nov. 1858-28
Mr., Mar. 1860-22
A. P., 1876-4
Charles, 1874-60
Harley, Sept.1860-20, 21
Harlo, Mar. 1859-22
Horatio, Nov. 1859-9
Jefferson, Nov. 1858-16

LONG continued
Michael, 1864-65
O., Sept. 1860-6
Ozias, 1868-71; 1878-108
William, Nov. 1858-16
LONGFELLOW
H. W., 1878-76
LONGWORTH
N., 1864-117
Nicholas, 1865-121
LOOKER
Othniel, 1864-105
LOOMIS
Mr., Nov. 1859-21
A., 1865-52
D., Mar. 1860-30
Finney R., 1876-78
H. G., 1865-110
James, Mar. 1860-37
Leonard, 1863-82
Margaret Brooks (Mrs. Leonard Loomis), 1863-82
LORD
Mr., 1870-95, 96
A. D. (Dr.), 1867-57
Alfred, 1870-33
Asa D., 1878-28
Lynde, 1870-77
Thomas, Sept. 1860-15
LORING
Oliver Rice (Judge), 1866-96
LOTT
Catherine (Mrs. Ezra Herrick), 1865-53
LOUBER
Catharine (Mrs. Walter E. Smith), 1864-52
LOUIS
Luce, 1868-86
Nicholas, 1862-55
LOVELAND
Mr., 1870-26
Celestia, 1867-4
David, 1870-20
John, 1867; 1867-74
Lafayette, 1874-60
Luther, 1874-85; 1876-61
LOVEL-LOVELL
Mrs., 1864-45
David, Nov. 1858-16; 1874-88
Ruth, Nov. 1858-17
LOVERIN
Mrs., 1865-3
LOVERING
William H., 1874-60, 75
LOWE
General, 1870-6
Elias, 1867-45
Enos (Dr.), 1866-85
Horatio, 1867-45
LOWERY-LOWRY
J. S., Nov. 1858-35; 1862-15
John, Mar. 1860-21
LOWTHER
E. H., 1862-4
Martha, 1867-4
LOWX
Caroline, Mar. 1860-29
LOYD
Mr., Mar. 1859-38
LUCAS
_____, 1874-44
Hiram, 1862-3
Robert, 1864-106
Robert (Gov.), 1866-85
LUCE
Dr., Sept. 1860-12
Lewis, Mar. 1860-27
Lorenzo, 1876-83
Lyman, 1874-61
LUCKY
_____, 1865-34
LUDLOW
Dep. Governor, 1865-61
Mr., 1864-58; 1865-28; 1867-76
Benjamin, 1866-87
Collins E., 1876-82
Fits Hugh, 1865-62
Israel, 1864-118
Lew., 1866-88
Maxfield, 1864-94, 95, 96; 1867-15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20; 1878-13
LUM
H. B., 1865-88
L. A. (Mrs.), 1865-88
LUSK
Capt., 1861-42
LUTHER
E. H., 1865-88
Mary, 1874-22
Peleg, 1874-22
LUTTS
Conrad, 1863-61
James, 1863-61
LYELL
Mr., May 1859-9, 11, 13
LYLE
Joshua, 1870-2
LYMAN
Mr., 1864-119
Abner, Mar. 1859-21
Cyrus, 1874-11, 93, 99
Darius, 1864-106; 1866-80
H. A., 1870-2, 3
Moses (Col.), 1866-80
LYN
Alonzo, 1874-60, 75
LYND
Tilley, Nov. 1858-14; Mar. 1859-39; 1862-10, 12
LYON-LYONS
Family, 1868-73
A. J., 1870-33
Charles, May 1859-33, 37; 1868-74, 84
Deborah (Mrs. Charles Lyon), 1868-84
Harvey (Rev.), Nov. 1858-39; 1861-22
Lucretia (Mrs. Erastus T. Sackett), 1864-53
Mary Hine (Mrs. Theodore Lyons), 1862-18
Nathaniel, 1870-33
Theodore, 1862-18
LYTLE
I. A., 1865-89

MABER
_____, 1864-75
MABIE
Tibius, 1876-86
MACK
Mr., 1874-88
D., 1865-79
Daniel, June 1858-37, 38, 39, 41; Mar. 1859-37, 48; Mar. 1860-22; Sept. 1860-17; 1864-23; 1865-49
I. F., 1878-26
John (Dr.), 1870-51
William A., 1876-126
MACKEY
Catherine, 1876-119
John, 1861-13, 14
MACMAHON
_____, 1876-98
MACOMB
Brig. Gen., 1870-55
MADE
Daniel, 1876-110
MADISON
James (Pres.), 1862-82; 1865-58
MAGEE
William, 1874-47; 1878-5
MAGILL
Family, 1863-12
Sam. (Capt.), Sept. 1860-13
MAHON
P. J., 1878-4, 87
MAIZ
Chester, 1868-74, 84
MAKIM
Mr., Mar. 1860-30
Elma, Mar. 1860-30
MALCOLM
John, 1868-86
MALDEN
_____ Sept. 1860-47
MALL
William G., 1876-84
MALLERY-MALLORY
Major, 1867-62
Amos, 1864-7
Daniel, 1876-58, 59
Julia, (Mrs. Charles Ruggles), 1863-85
MALLOTT
C., 1866-88
J. L., 1866-87
MALONEY
_____, 1878-61
MALONY
_____, Mar. 1860-8
Elizabeth, 1868-9
MALTBY
Joseph, 1876-10
MAMELSTEID
H., 1861-15
MANAHAN-MANNAHAN
Mr., Mar. 1859-6
C. W., 1866-7, 10
Charles, 1874-37
Charles S. (Lt.), 1876-78, 81
Charles W., 1876-75, 127
George, 1874-37
George W., 1866-10
MANAHAN-MANNAHAN continued
Henry, 1874-37
Lewis, 1874-37
Martha Cook (Mrs. Thomas Mannahan), Mar. 1860-40
Thomas, Mar. 1860-40
Violetta, 1874-36, 93
MANCHESTER
Mr., 1864-6
C. E., 1870-10
MANDENVILLE
Thomas (Capt.), 1870-79
MANHATTEN
_____, 1870-113
MANLEY-MANLY
Alpheus, 1863-8; 1865-89
Edmond, 1865-89
J., June 1858-30
John, (Deacon), 1863-8
Thomas, Sept. 1860-37, 38
MANN
Benjamin, Nov. 1858-43
William, 1874-59
William D., Mar. 1859-16
MANVEL-MANVILLE
_____(Mrs. Amos Clark), 1868-34
Mr., 1874-7
Mrs., 1868-8
C., 1868-58
Chester, June 1858-30; Nov. 1858-1; Nov. 1859-38, 39; Mar. 1860-28, 29, 30; 1865-89; 1868-31, 34, 41, 58
Dothee (Mrs. Chester Manvel), Mar. 1860-28
John J., Mar. 1860-29
Nancy (Mrs. Chester Manvel), Mar. 1860-30
David H., June 1858-30; Nov. 1858-1; 1870-33
Ruth Wooster (Mrs. Manville), 1868-8
MARCH
Rev. Mr., 1864-13, 14, 15
MARGERSON
Edward, Mar. 1860-20
MARION
Zachariah, Sept. 1860-44
MARKHAM
Mr., Sept. 1860-47
Horace, Sept. 1860-12, 15
Nathaniel, Nov. 1859-11
Polly (Mrs. Benjamin F. Gavit), Mar. 1860-23
Samuel, Sept. 1860-12, 15
MARKS
Mr., 1876-28
Rev. Mr., 1866-6; 1867-85
David (Rev.), 1863-51
Edward, 1865-89; 1868-86
Jane, 1868-86
S. (Rev.), 1876-13, 63
Samuel (Rev.), June 1858-30; Nov. 1858-1; 1863-71; 1874-13, 25, 45; 1876-25
MARSH
Mr., Nov. 1858-48; Mar. 1859-11, 34
A. R., 1870-33; 1874-2, 12, 20, 30, 37; 1876-10
C. W., 1878-25
Cyrus W., June 1858-41; Nov. 1858-14, 15, 19, 20, 21; Mar. 1859-33, 35; Mar. 1860-21; 1862-81; 1865-46, 52; 1866-75; 1867-113, 114, 115; 1868-17, 44; 1870-88; 1876-25

MARSH continued
Ebenezer, 1870-77
Samuel, 1870-77
MARSHALL
Chief Justice, 1867-57
A. M., 1862-44
Henry, 1874-23
Ichabod, May 1859-20; 1862-10; 1870-54
J. E., 1870-33
Morton, Mar. 1860-2; 1865-4
O. A., 1870-33
Richard, 1864-74, 75
William, 1874-81
MARTIN
Dr., 1876-12
Almon, 1863-79
Bud, Nov. 1858-39; 1863-79
Catherine Sherrats (Mrs. Bud Martin), Nov. 1858-39; 1863-79
Christopher, Mar. 1860-19
Clarissa, 1863-79
E. (Dr.), 1867-6, 75
Edgar, 1874-59
Ellen (Mrs. William Taylor), 1868-112
Gilbert, 1868-74, 83
Hannah (Mrs. Gilbert Martin), 1868-83
Helen (Mrs. Union White), 1868-99
James, 1868-99
James D., 1876-83
John, 1864-110, 111
Lafayette, 1863-79
Maria (Mrs. Union White), 1868-83, 99
Matilda (Mrs. Harvey Smith), 1868-83
Mary (Mrs. Union White), 1868-99
P., 1863-37, 39
Richard, 1874-61, 75
Rosanna, 1863-79
Sally Ann, Mar. 1860-28
S. Antoinette, 1878-106
Samuel (D. D.), 1864-46
Solomon, Mar. 1860-20
Walter, 1868-83
William, 1863-79; 1865-89
MARVIN
Benjamin, 1867-85
Cornelia (Mrs. Alexander Mason), Mar. 1859-42
Gertrude Geiwryck (Mrs. Mathew Marvin), Mar. 1859-42
Hannah, 1878-106
Isaac, 1864-89; 1878-106
Isaiah, Sept. 1860-23
John, 1876-82
Mathew, Mar. 1859-42
Sally (Mrs. Eri Keeler), 1878-106
Sarah Lockwood, 1866-81
Stephen, 1864-3
Zachariah, Mar. 1859-46; Mar. 1860-23
MASON
General, 1870-90
Mr., May 1859-44; 1862-30, 41
Widow, May 1859-20; Nov. 1859-3, 29; 1868-61
Alexander, Mar. 1859-1, 6, 42, 46; May 1859-44; Sept. 1860-4, 5; 1862-30; 1864-86; 1868-60; 1874-14,118
MASON continued
Calmon, 1864-102
Cornelia Marvin (Mrs. Alexander Mason), Mar. 1859-42, 44; Sept. 1860-5, 39
Halsey, Nov. 1859-16
J. W., 1866-86
John, 1866-54, 55
Joseph, 1874-14, 118
Lovina, 1874-14, 118
N. P., Mar. 1860-14
Russel, 1863-80
Sallie Cuddeback (Mrs. Russel Mason), 1863-80
Sarah, 1864-86
Sophia Page (Mrs. Calmon Mason), 1864-102
Susan (Mrs.), 1862-3
William B., Mar. 1860-14
William P., Sept. 1860-5, 19; 1876-28
MASSIE
Nathaniel, 1864-118
MATCHETT
Lucy (Mrs. Union White), 1868-98
MATHER-MATHERS
Ann (Mrs. David W. Hirman), Nov. 1858-17; Mar. 1859-36; Mar. 1860-25
C. (Mrs. Seba Mather), 1864-8
Cotton, 1866-64; 1867-96
Cynthia, 1874-109
Erastus, Mar. 1860-21; 1874-109
Erastus (Mrs.), 1874-109
Harlow, Nov. 1858-16
Horace, Nov. 1858-16; 1874-89, 109
Nathaniel, Mar. 1860-22
Richard (Rev.), 1865-98
Samuel, 1870-18
Seba, Nov. 1858-16; 1864-8; 1867-4; 1874-89, 109
MATHEWS-MATTHEWS
Mr., Mar. 1859-10
John (Mrs.), 1870-5
John H. (Dr.), 1865-120
Mathew, Nov. 1858-46
Thomas, 1876-82
MATHEWSON
Charles (Col.), 1866-103
MATSON
John S., 1876-100
MATTOON
George W., 1876-4
MAXWELL
J., Mar. 1860-30
Thompson, 1867-10, 11
William, 1876-84
MAY
Mr., Sept. 1860-43; 1864-34
C., Nov. 1859-46
Chisim, Mar. 1859-9; Nov. 1859-46
J. M., June 1858-25
James, 1864-65
Phoebe, 1876-95
MAYNARD
A. W., 1870-33
MAYNES
John, 1876-28
MCAFEE
_____, 1868-110

MCALLISTER
John A., 1864-9
MCARDLE
John P., May 1859-22; Sept. 1860-2; 1861-8, 9; 1865-2; 1866-49; 1868-79; 1870-52; 1874-113
MCARTHUR
Capt., Sept. 1860-36
Gov., Sept. 1860-32
Duncan (Col.), June 1858-14; 1864-106; 1867-96; 1868-81
MCBRIDE
Amos, 1864-53
MCCAGG
E. B., 1865-110
MCCARTHA
Michael, 1876-84, 86
MCCARTHY
Michael, 1876-82
MCCARTNEY
Edward, Mar. 1860-22
Nicholas, Mar. 1860-22
William, Sept. 1860-21; 1865-89
MCCARTY
Mr., 1866-55
Rev., 1866-14
MCCAULEY
John, 1876-28
MCCLAVE
Elizabeth Corey (Mrs. Ransom McClave), 1870-22
James, 1863-54;1870-22
John, 1870-22
Ransom, 1870-22
MCCLELLAN
Dr., 1870-26
General, 1868-54, 118
A. (Dr.), 1876-36
George (Dr.), 1864-46
George B. (Maj. Gen.), 1864-46
MCCLINE
Mary B., 1865-89
MCCLOUD
Miss, Mar. 1860-30
MCCLUER
Thomas, 1876-99
MCCLURE
Deacon, 1870-2
General, 1867-61, 62
A., Sept. 1860-6
A. (Mrs.), 1861-3
James, 1876-99
MCCOLOUGH
Thomas, Sept. 1860-16, 19, 21
MCCONNELL
James, 1870-21
Mary (Mrs. John Corey), 1870-21
William (Capt.), 1861-43
MCCONNELLY
George R., 1874-60
MCCONOUGHEY
D. C. (Dr.), 1874-111
MCCORD
Capt., Mar. 1859-28
Ann Flemming (Mrs. John McCord), Mar. 1860-24
Barbara Jackson (Mrs. William McCord), Mar. 1860-23
MCCORD continued
J. D., 1866-95
James, Sept. 1860-13
John, Mar. 1860-24; Sept. 1860-13; 1865-117
John D. (Rev.), 1863-7
Sarah Kenton (Mrs. John McCord), 1865-117
William, Mar. 1860-23
MCCORMICK
B. F., 1870-33
B. T., 1863-51
S. B., 1864-106
MCCORNEL
James, Mar. 1860-37
MCCOSKRY
Bishop, 1874-45
MCCRACKEN
Adjutant, 1874-66
MCCRADY
Mr., 1864-54
MCCREADY
Mr., 1870-11
MCCRILLIS
L., 1874-2
Lovell, 1874-12; 1876-16; 1878-2
MCCULLOUGH
_____, 1878-126
MCCUNE
R., 1864-45
R. (Rev.), 1876-75
MCCUMISH
(Secretary), 1862-69
MCCUNE
Robert (Rev.), 1861-15
MCCURDY
R. L., Nov. 1859-8, 9
Richard, Nov. 1859-9; 1876-47
MCDERMOT
Henry, 1876-83
MCDONALD
Col., 1866-109
Mr., 1860-2; 1864-32; 1870-72
Henry, 1876-4
Henry (Rev.), 1876-11
Phebe, 1876-11
S. P., Nov. 1858-1; 1863-71; 1876-63
Samuel B., 1865-89
MCDONOUGH
Mr., Mar. 1860-2
R., 1866-8
MCELROY
R., 1876-36
MCELVAIN
Capt., 1861-43
MCELWAIN
James P., 1874-61
MCENALLY
John O., 1876-83
MCEWEN
T. C., 1870-33; 1878-25
MCFALL
C. S. (Mrs.), 1870-33
William H., 1870-33
MCFARLAND
Mr., 1866-90
Isaac, 1866-86
Parthena (Mrs. Mingus) (Mrs. James Hamilton), 1868-115, 116

MCFARLAND continued
R. W., 1864-111
Robert, 1864-111
Walter, 1874-52
William (Major), 1868-115
William, 1864-118
MCFARLIN
Ann, 1868-13
MCFARLING
Betsy (Mrs. Clark Pratt), Mar. 1860-25
MCGEE
Mrs., 1862-5
William, 1862-5; 1867-6, 75
MCGETTIGAN
Barney, 1863-37, 39
MCGILL
Mr., June 1858-46
Samuel, 1862-40
MCGINNESS
John, 1876-83
MCGOOKEY
Barney, 1874-61
John, 1874-61; 1876-86
MCGREW
T. F., 1870-92
Thomas F., 1870-50
McGuffy
Capt., 1866-72
MCHENRY
Thomas, 1876-82
MCILRATH
Samuel, 1864-107
Thomas, 1864-107
MCILVAINE
Bishop, May 1859-22; 1865-96; 1876-52, 55, 56, 63
MCINTOSH
E. S. (Col.), 1866-91
Enoch S. (Col.), 1866-96
MCINTIRE
Rev., 1878-28
Daniel, 1866-27
James Jr., June 1858-40; Nov. 1858-14; Mar. 1859-9, 10, 14, 34, 46, 47; Nov. 1859-46; Mar. 1860-23, 25; 1862-81; 1863-51; 1867-25; 1876-62, 107, 108, 110; 1878-92
MCKEE
_____, 1862-88
David, 1865-78
William, 1874-60
MCKELVEY-MCKELVY
Mr., Mar. 1859-35
Electa, 1865-89
John, 1875-89
M., 1865-52; 1868-80, 81
Martin, Mar. 1860-21
Mary, 1865-89
Saloma Ashley (Mrs. William McKelvy), Mar. 1860-24
William, Nov. 1858-4, 14, 15, 18; Mar. 1860-3, 24; 1862-5; 1864-4, 5; 1865-89; 1867-4; 1876-33
MCKENNEY
Mary (Mrs. Lyman Scott), 1878-111
MCKENZIE
Mr., 1862-88
MCKESSON
Isaac, 1870-2, 12
Lester V. (Lt.), 1876-78, 80, 82
MCKIM
James, 1866-95
MCKINNEY
_____ (Mrs. Anson Bissell), 1867-90
MCKINNON
Michael, 1874-52
MCKISSON
S. V., 1867-75
MCLANE
John, Mar. 1859-26; 1867-3
MCLAUGHLIN
William (Major), 1865-118
MCLEAN
John, June 1858-21; 1865-4; 1870-54; 1876-100; 1878-13
MCLOUTH
O. C., 1878-25
MCLUER
Elizabeth, 1876-99
James, 1876-99
Thomas, 1876-99
MCMAHON
Rev., 1866-24
James, 1863-19
MCMAKIN
John, 1866-87
William, 1866-86
MCMANIGAL
Eliza Day (Mrs. James McManigal), 1864-65
James, 1864-65
MCMASTER
James, 1867-28
MCMEEKIN
William, 1864-53
MCMILLAN-MCMILLEN
Widow, 1876-21
H. (Mrs.), 1866-95
Henry, 1865-95
Hiram, 1865-89; 1867-90; 1870-1; 1874-11
John, Mar. 1860-21; 1864-35
John (Deacon), 1878-112
Mary, 1874-11, 93
Mary A., 1878-113
William, 1864-118; 1865-89; 1874-11
MCMINTREE
Mr., Sept. 1860-7
MCMURRAY
D., 1878-26
David, Mar. 1859-20, 21; 1878-26, 28
MCNEIL
Archibald, 1870-77
B., (Hon.), 1870-77
MCPHERSON-MCPHORSON
General, 1866-65
Mr., 1870-102
Alex, 1876-74
Hugh, Mar. 1860-23
Rebecca Crippen (Mrs. Hugh McPhorson), Mar. 1860-23
William, 1876-86
MEAD
_____, 1878-92
Mr., 1864-49, 50

MEAD continued
Abraham, 1859-31; 1864-70; 1868-73, 76, 78, 82, 111; 1874-94; 1876-34, 35
Abram, May 1859-31, 36, 37; 1864-70
Alice, 1876-4
Allen, 1863-52; 1870-51, 52
Alson, 1868-82
Azel, 1874-14, 111, 112
Benjamin, 1870-23
C., 1864-71
Charles H., 1865-89
Cyrus, 1864-70; 1876-34
Deborah Barker (Mrs. Abraham Mead), 1868-82, 111
E. (Mrs.), 1868-11
Edmund, 1876-116
George G., 1874-111
Joel E., 1865-89; 1868-111; 1874-7, 10, 92, 94
John, 1863-95; 1864-71
Jonas, 1864-71
L. L., 1864-71
Leander, 1876-5
Luther, 1864-4, 6, 75; 1868-86;1876-4
Luther (Mrs.), 1876-5
M. E., 1864-76; 1866-2
Marcus E., 1864-69; 1865-89
Mary, 1868-82, 111; 1876-5
Mary C., 1865-89
Mary L., 1865-89
Matthew, 1864-57
Newbury, 1868-82
Noah, 1864-71
Paul B., 1865-89
Peter, May 1859-20, 31; 1868-73, 76, 82; 1876-34, 35
Rachel, 1876-116, 127
Solomon (Rev.), 1876-5
T. L., 1868-86
Trumbull, 1876-34
Varney P., 1868-76; 1876-35
W. G., 1863-8
MEADOWS
Polly (Mrs. Henry Ball), 1862-88
MEARS
G. W., Sept. 1860-7; 1867-90
John, 1865-89
Moody, Mar. 1860-14; Sept. 1860-5; 1865-49
MEDILL
Joseph, 1865-107, 112, 113
William, 1864-106
MEEK
John O., 1865-69
MEEKER
Judge, June 1858-34; Mar. 1859-5; Nov. 1859-15; 1863-76; 1864-29, 30, 31; 1866-53
Mr., Mar. 1859-33
A. W., 1876-26
Aaron W., 1876-26
Barnabus, 1865-44, 50
Barney, 1862-14
Betsey Harris (Mrs. John Meeker), 1862-16
Edward, 1862-14
George, 1876-28
George T., 1862-14
Hanford, 1862-14
MEEKER continued
Hannah Cuddeback (Mrs. Wright Meeker), 1863-80
Hezekiah, 1862-14
John, 1862-16
Maria (Mrs. Wright), 1862-2
Polly Platt (Mrs. Stephen Meeker), 1862-14
Stephen (Judge), June 1858-23, 24; Nov. 1858-28; May 1859-27; Mar. 1860-21; 1862-3, 13, 14; 1863-72, 73; 1865-48; 1876-26; 1878-18, 77
Wright, 1862-14; 1863-80
MEEKIN
William, 1864-53
MEENELEY
A., 1876-57
MEIGG
J. B., 1868-86
MEIGS
J., Mar. 1859-13; Nov. 1859-38; 1864-105; 1870-63
Jonathan, 1868-23
Return J., 1874-48
Return Jonathon (Gov.), 1866-92
MEILE
Theodore, 1876-83
MELLEN
Samuel K., 1876-29
MELLVAINE
Bishop, 1876-51
MELOCHE
Mrs., 1867-10
MELONA
_____ Parsen (Mrs. Ned Melona), 1868-34
Ned, 1868-34
MELVILLE
Alexander, 1876-82
MERCHANT
Polly (Mrs. William Cherry), Mar. 1860-23
MERCURI
R. I., 1867-9
MERRICK
_____, 1866-116
James, L. (Rev.), 1863-3
Noah (Rev.), 1866-116
MERRIFIELD
_____ (Mrs. Chapman), 1864-112
_____ (Mrs. Coleman), 1864-112
Betsey (Mrs. Nathan Hoyt), 1870-23
Charles, 1876-35
Hannah Esty (Mrs. Joseph Merrifield), 1870-23; 1874-109
Huldah, 1864-7, 1865-89
Huldah Bates (Mrs. Joseph Seymour Merrifield), 1864-112; 1870-25, 26
J. O., 1863-55; 1864-7; 1870-25; 1874-109
J. S., 1870-22, 25, 26
James O., 1870-23, 24; 1874-109
Joseph, 1863-55; 1864-111; 1870-20, 22, 23, 26, 48; 1874-11, 109
Joseph Seymour, 1863-56; 1864-111, 112; 1870-23, 25, 26
Levi, 1870-23
Lewis, 1870-23, 24
Lydia (Mrs. Peter Kinsley), 1863-55; 1870-23, 25

MERRIFIELD continued
Mary Keyes (Mrs. Lewis Merrifield), 1870-24
O. S., 1864-112; 1865-89
Polly (Mrs. Ezekiel Sampson), 1870-22, 23; 1874-11
S. L., 1865-89
Ursula Keyes (Mrs. James O. Merrifield), 1870-24
William, 1863-55, 59; 1870-22, 23
MERRIL-MERRILL
Benjamin, 1864-57
Nathaniel, 1864-7
MERRIMAN
Sarah Hull (Mrs. James Smith (Sen.), 1867-40
MERRITT
Mrs., 1870-4
MERRY
_____ (Mrs. Eli Ruggles), 1867-90
Mr., Nov. 1858-23, 28; May 1859-45; Mar. 1860-9; Sept. 1860-38, 39; 1862-15; 1867-83, 90; 1874-8
Betsey P., 1867-29
Caroline Sprague (Mrs. Henry F. Merry), Nov. 1859-15, 19
Charlotte, 1861-6; 1866-58, 95; 1868-60; 1874-18
Charlotte Adams (Mrs. Ebenezer Merry), 1866-58; 1868-4, 59, 60, 61, 62
E., 1870-33
E. O., 1867-8, 83; 1870-12; 1874-2, 12, 18, 20, 30, 31, 34, 35, 37; 1876-3, 8, 10, 12, 15, 16; 1878-1, 5, 108
Ebenezer, June 1858-23; Nov. 1858-3; Mar. 1859-1, 5, 36; Nov. 1859-22, 25, 26; Mar. 1860-3, 9, 14, 15, 23; Sept. 1860-4, 5, 6; 1863-93; 1864-21, 22; 1866-58; 1867-28; 1868-3, 4, 59, 60, 61; 1870-54; 1874-44; 1878-17
Ebenezer Jr., 1866-58; 1868-60
Ebenezer O., 1867-29
Eliza, 1878-108
Elizabeth, 1866-58; 1868-60
Fanny, 1867-29
George A., 1867-29
Henry F., Nov. 1859-15, 19; 1867-29; 1878-5, 108
Hosmer, Mar. 1859-1, 45, 46; May 1859-45, 46, 47; Nov. 1859-25; Sept. 1860-42; 1867-28, 29; 1868-60, 61; 1878-108
Julia, 1866-58; 1868-60
L. E. (Capt.), 1876-11, 12, 13, 83, 84
Lucy, 1866-58; 1868-60
Lucy (Mrs. Pier), 1868-3
Martin, 1866-58; 1867-90; 1868-60
Mary, 1866-58; 1868-60
Mary A., 1867-29
O., 1870-2
O. H., 1876-84
Samuel, 1866-58, 68; 1868-60
Sarah, 1866-58; 1868-60
Sarah Frost (Mrs. Hosmer Merry), 1867-28
Sarah Reed (Mrs. Hosmer Merry), 1867-29
Stephen, 1867-29
Stephen (Corp.), 1876-84, 85
Sylvia, 1868-12
William W., 1867-29
MERWIN
George, 1868-56
MESNARD
Eri, 1864-2, 93; 1865-89; 1867-17
MESSELDINE
Sylvanus A., 1874-59
MESSENGER
_____ (Mrs. Richard Burt), 1867-90
Cecelia Hubbell (Mrs. Forrest Messenger), 1864-31
D., 1870-51
F., 1874-31
Forest, 1864-31
H. A., 1878-103
Hannah (Mrs. Norman Moore), Mar. 1860-25
Theron, 1876-82
MESSERVES
Capt., Mar. 1860-11
METCALF
_____, 1868-110
_____ (Mrs. Perry), 1865-67
_____ (Mrs. James Shaw), 1865-67
J. (Dr.), 1865-66, 67
William H., 1874-60
MEVERICK
Moses, Mar. 1860-19
Sarah Allerton (Mrs. Moses Meverick), Mar. 1860-19
MICHAEL
Maria (Mrs. Levi Parsons), 1863-81
MICKLE
Mr., 1862-40
MIDDLESWARTH
J., 1870-26
MIDDLETON-MIDLETON
Mr., 1862-27; 1868-52; 1876-92
Joseph, Mar. 1860-22
Polly Call (Mrs. Middleton), 1862-27
Thomas, 1862-83
MILES
Capt., 1867-71
Mr., 1864-24, 25
Daniel, Mar. 1860-42; 1870-33; 1874-56
Daniel (Mrs.), 1874-56
Eliza, 1867-75
Elizabeth (Mrs.), 1863-8; 1864-23
Erastus, 1868-3
Ezra, 1867-75
H. B., 1863-4; 1866-95
Henry, 1864-25
Jasper, Mar. 1860-8, 10
Jasper P., 1864-23
John, 1870-75, 76
L. B., (Mrs.), 1866-95
Margaret (Mrs. Isaac N. Reed), 1864-25
Orra (Mrs. William Allgodd), 1864-25
Philander, 1874-59
R. S., 1868-4, 6; 1870-11
Susan, 1864-25
MILL
Henry D. C., 1876-83
MILLER
_____, 1876-92
Mr., Mar. 1860-16; 1868-49
Alexander (Rev.), 1876-77
Alfred W., 1874-59
Ann (Mrs. Joseph Brooks), 1863-82, 83

MILLER continued
Anson, Sept. 1860-2
Asher, 1863-96
Benjamin, Mar. 1860-22, 23
David, 1870-51
Dorcas, Mar. 1860-27
E. (Mrs.), 1865-89
Frank, 1870-22
George, Nov. 1858-32; Mar. 1859-2; May 1859-47; Mar. 1860-5, 6
Harriet L., 1865-89
Harry, 1865-101
Hugh, 1874-55
Isaac, 1863-82; 1874-29, 93
J., June 1858-30; 1867-1
J. G., 1862-2
James, 1870-102
Jeremiah, Nov. 1858-12
John, Nov. 1858-1; Mar. 1860-6; 1861-48; 1863-56, 58, 59, 73, 82; 1865-89; 1867-8; 1874-60; 1876-112
John G., 1878-25
John W., 1874-60
Jno. G. Jr., June 1858-31; 1865-89; 1878-25
Katy Davis, 1868-7
Lucy Brown (Mrs. Lyman Miller), 1863-68
Lucy Pelton (Mrs. John Miller), 1863-81
Lyell, 1874-55
Lyman, 1863-68; 1868-86
Magdalene Wolf (Mrs. Harry Miller), 1865-101
Marshall, Sept. 1860-6
Peter, 1876-82
Peter A., 1876-82
R. T., 1876-118
Samuel, Mar. 1860-28
Sidney C., 1876-86
Wells W. (Capt.), 1876-78, 80, 82
William, 1864-66; 1876-121
MILLHORN
Family, 1868-113
Elizabeth (Mrs. John Millhorn), 1868-113
John, 1868-113
MILLIMAN
_____ Young (Mrs. Amherst Milliman), Nov. 1858-30, 36
Family, 1868-49
Mr., June 1858-49; Nov. 1858-30
Betsy (Mrs. George Goodell), 1864-25
MILLS
Deacon, 1874-58
Judge, 1862-12
Mrs., 1870-15
_____ Cooke (Mrs. William H. Mills 2nd), 1867-117
Elisha T., 1864-58
Henry, 1867-108
Isaac (Hon.), June 1858-22, 25; Nov. 1858-14; Mar. 1859-13, 14, 16, 19, 25; Sept. 1860-15; 1863-60; 1864-58, 63, 96; 1867-108; 1868-8; 1870-88; 1876-28, 107; 1878-12, 13, 14, 24
Isaac A., Mar. 1859-19; 1870-88; 1878-24
Jacob, Mar. 1860-17
L. E., 1870-50
Nathaniel, 1865-89; 1867-5, 6; 1868-5; 1876-4, 124
MILLS continued
Rebecca (Mrs. John Garrison), 1865-39
William H. 2nd, 1867-117
William S., 1861-13; 1878-26
MILLSPAN
Mary Ann, 1862-28
MILLSPAUGH
W. H., 1862-29
MILROY
General, 1874-61, 62
MILSPAW
Mr., 1862-29
MINER-MINOR
_____, 1863-67
Mrs., 1868-36
A., 1863-54, 57
Asel, 1865-89
Betsy (Mrs. Jared Hine), 1862-17
C. E., 1876-3
C. E. (Lt.), 1874-22
Cyrus, 1863-6; 1868-9, 29, 41; 1874-86
Daniel, June 1858-30; Nov. 1858-1; 1863-4, 50, 52; 1865-25; 1870-7, 51, 52; 1878-108
Delia H., 1868-83
Delia Palmer (Mrs. Justus Minor), 1868-35
Elizabeth (Mrs.), 1864-4
Harriet, 1870-33
J., 1868-58
Jane White (Mrs. Nathan Miner), Mar. 1860-25
Justus, Nov. 1859-39, 40; Mar. 1860-26; 1868-35, 81; 1874-85
Lucretia (Mrs. Henry Miles), 1865-122
Minerva (Mrs. Gideon Waugh), 1870-40
Nathan, May 1859-24; Mar. 1860-25; 1863-49, 51, 52; 1870-51, 52
Olive (Mrs. Justus Minor), Mar. 1860-26
P. (Mrs.), 1878-93
Peres, 1863-51
Rebecca (Mrs. Hezekiah Smith), 1862-20
S., 1861-4
Samuel, 1863-1, 3; 1865-65, 89
MINGES
Jacob, Mar. 1860-24
James, Mar. 1860-24
Phoebe Dala (Mrs. James Minges), Mar. 1860-24
Rebecca Boreling (Mrs. Jacob Minges), Mar. 1860-24
S. E., 1867-3
MINGUS
Mr., May 1859-44; 1868-115
Ann, 1862-28
Benjamin, Nov. 1858-35, 37; 1862-28
Daniel, Nov. 1858-35; Mar. 1859-6
Hieronymus, Nov. 1858-35, 36; 1862-28
J. E., 1865-89
Jacob, Nov. 1858-35, 37
James, Nov.1858-35, 37; 1862-28
John, Nov. 1858-37
Lydia Y., 1865-89
Mary Potter (Mrs. Benjamin Mingus), Nov. 1858-35
Parthena McFarland (Mrs. Mingus), 1868-115, 116

MINGUS continued
Phebe Darly (Mrs. James Mingus), Nov. 1858-35
Rebecca (Mrs.), 1861-3
MINKLES
Edgar, 1866-95
MINN
Elizabeth Powers Reed (Mrs. Minn), Mar. 1859-46
MINOR SEE MINER
MINOT
Mrs., 1365-14
MINUSE
Mr., 1868-61
A., June 1858-30; Nov. 1858-2
George, 1876-25
Horatio, 1876-123
Horatio (Mrs.), 1876-123
Margaret (Mrs. William Kline), 1868-3
MINZEY
Allen, 1876-116
MITCHELL
_____, 1876-98
Elizabeth A., 1876-127
George Oren, 1865-89
H. S., 1876-58
I., 1864-43
James, 1864-73
Lorania, 1864-8
Lucinda Cherry (Mrs. I. Mitchell), 1864-43
Moses, 1864-73
Olive (Mrs. Joel Crane), Nov. 1858-42; 1870-46
William, 1864-73; 1865-89
MIX
Justice L, 1864-29
Mary Stoddard (Mrs. Stephen), 1866-93
Stephen (Rev.), 1866-93
MIZARD
_____, Mar. 1859-31
MIZER
_____ (Mrs. Whipple), 1870-102
Phineas, 1870-102
MOFFATT-MOFFITT
_____ (Mrs. Hawley Belden), 1864-39
Hannah Baker (Mrs. Phillip Moffitt), 1864-39
P. (Capt.), 1864-37, 38
Philip, Mar. 1859-41; 1864-37, 39, 40, 41; 1868-81; 1874-28, 93
Spencer, 1864-41
MOGG
Uriah, 1874-59
MOHAWK
John, 1874-39
MOMMEE
Joseph, Mar. 1860-21
MONEGHAN
T., Mar. 1860-29
Torrence, Mar. 1860-30
MONROE
N. C. (Esqy.), 1861-5
Samuel, 1864-53, 56
Sarah (Mrs. Philetus Ferris), 1864-52
MONTAGUE
Z., Mar. 1860-3
MONTEITH
Abagail Harris Harris (Mrs. John Monteith), Nov. 1858-42
MONTEITH continued
John (Prof.) (Rev.), Nov. 1858-42; 1861-18
MONTGOMERI
Mr., 1863-69
Rev. Mr., June 1865-14; 1870-60
Alex, 1866-106
Thomas, 1870-102
MONTOUR
Montgomery, 1868-25
MOODY
Mr., 1866-55
William, 1866-86; 1874-46
MOON
Rebecca (Mrs. Daniel Page), 1864-33
Richard, Mar. 1860-37, 39
MOOR
Hannah Messenger (Mrs. Norman Moor), Mar. 1860-25
Norman, Mar. 1860-25
MOORE
Major, 1870-101
Mrs., 1868-11, 59
Adam, 1876-83
Anna E. Rose (Mrs.), 1862-8
Benjamin, Mar. 1860-36
D., 1874-28
David, 1866-95
David B., 1874-60
Henry L., 1878-109
James, 1870-113, 114
John, 1866-95
Joseph, 1878-108, 109
Lewis, 1878-108, 109
Nathan, Sept. 1860-36, 37
Rebecca (Mrs. Daniel Page), 1864-100
Wilson, 1874-60
MOOSE
Adam, 1876-83
MORAN
Capt., Mar. 1860-15
MORDEN
William, 1863-16; 1865-13, 15
MORDOFF
Betsey Washburn (Mrs. James Mordoff), Nov. 1858-43
James, Nov. 1858-43
MORDON
William (Esq.), Mar. 1859-19
MORE
Mr., 1864-45
Benjamin, Mar. 1860-36, 42
Hannah, 1861-21
MORECRAFT
James, Sept. 1860-12
MOREHEAD
_____, 1878-101
_____ (the trapper), 1864-63
William G., (Mrs.), 1865-8
MOREHOUSE
D. E., 1876-119
Elisa, 1876-119
Ephraim B., 1865-89
George, 1865-89
MORFOOT
Robert, 1865-89
MORGAN
Mr., June 1858-30; 1876-43
Rev., 1863-71

MORGAN continued
Fred W., 1866-95
Henry, 1868-83
I. B., 1878-119
N., 1865-27
Royal, Mar. 1860-9
Thomas, 1870-33
William, June 1858-30; 1874-61, 75
MORN
Betsey (Mrs. Nathan Harris), 1862-16
MORRELL
Rev. Mr., 1874-28
H. H., (Rev.), 1874-8, 104; 1876-53
John, 1874-44
MORRILL
Mrs., Mar. 1860-12
Dudley, 1868-73
Richard (Rev.), 1863-71
MORRIS
Bishop, 1870-90
Col., 1866-87
Mr., Mar. 1860-21, 22, 23
Calvary (Hon.), 1870-51
Edward, 1866-116
Eliza (Mrs. Welch Richey), Mar. 1860-23
Isaac, 1866-116
Robert, 1866-112, 113
Thomas, Sept. 1860-16
MORRISON
Esquire, Nov. 1858-36; 1863-70
Sarah (Mrs.), 1867-90
William, Mar. 1860-23, 24
MORROW
Gov., Sept. 1860-32; 1862-82; 1870-95; 1876-112
Jeremiah, June 1858-14; 1864-105, 106
Joseph, 1874-75
T. V. (Dr.), 1874-95
MORSE
Dr., 1863-33, 36
Mr., 1861-2
A. J., Nov. 1859-9
Asahel, 1864-45; 1868-81; 1876-63
B. F., June 1858-39
Clarissa A., 1874-99
Daniel, Sept. 1860-44
E. G., 1865-68
Horace, Mar. 1859-37; Sept. 1860-39, 41, 42, 45; 1864-22
Jedediah (D. D.), 1874-22
John, Sept. 1860-44
Mary Ann, Sept. 1860-44
Peter, 1861-2
R., 1866-95
Randolphus, Mar. 1860-3
S. G., 1861-2
Seth, 1861-2
Thirza Underhill (Mrs. Horace Morse), Sept. 1860-45
Zebediah, 1874-99
MORSMAN
M. J. (Dr.), Sept. 1860-22
MORTON
Aaron, 1862-44
George E. (Governer), 1870-4
James, Mar. 1860-42
MORTON continued
John, Mar. 1860-2; 1862-43, 44, 45; 1864-75
Richard, Mar. 1859-16; 1862-45; 1864-75, 81
Richard A. (Dr.), May 1859-7, 8; 1862-45; 1864-75
MORY
Esquire, 1862-9
MOSES
_____, 1867-23
MOSIER
Dr., 1864-29
Mr., Mar. 1860-22
E. (Mrs.), 1867-75
Nelson L., 1874-60
Victor, 1874-60
MOSS
Mr., 1867-82
MOTT
Mr., Sept. 1860-43; 1864-34; 1876-36, 41, 42
Adam, 1864-9; 1874-14
Burgur, 1874-108
Sally (Mrs. Welden Mott), Mar. 1860-28
Samuel, June 1858-25
Welden, Mar. 1860-28, 29
MOULTON
Mr., 1861-2; 1866-53
Mrs., 1861-1, 2
H. S., 1865-89
Horace L., Nov. 1858-3; Sept. 1860-1; 1862-8; 1864-44, 46; 1870-11
MOUNTAIN
William, 1876-82
MOWREY
Phinney, 1866-68
A. W. P., Sept. 1860-4
MUDGE
Rev. Mr., 1864-1
MUENSCHER
C. H., 1870-33
MUGG
George (Mrs.), 1876-14
MULFORD
Thomas T., Mar. 1859-16
MULLEN
R., 1874-32
MULLIGAN
Gen., 1874-66
MULLINS
Priscilla, Mar. 1860-20
William, Mar. 1860-20
MULOCK
C., 1870-33
MUNGEN
Mrs., 1874-3
MUNGER
_____ (Mrs. E. G. Gibbs), 1870-4
Mr., 1864-23
Cyrus, 1863-51
Eliab, 1870-4
Ephraim, Nov. 1859-37; 1863-16; 1870-4
MUNN
Benjamin, Nov. 1858-43
Betty (Miss), 1866-5

MUNROE
N. C., 1865-89
MUNSEL
Alva, 1863-50
Joel, 1874-9
William, 1863-50; 1865-53
MUNSON
John (Deacon), 1870-11
Lucy, 1870-11
M. M., 1870-51
Martha Ann (Mrs. Benjamin Corey), 1870-21
Nathan, 1863-54
S., 1863-56
Simeon, 1863-53; 1870-19, 21
MURPHY
Elizabeth (Mrs. Benjamin P. Smith), 1870-3
John, 1874-60
MURRAY
Col., 1867-62
Harvey, Mar. 1859-5; 1862-30; 1866-68
N., 1862-5
Nelson, 1865-89; 1870-12
Rufus, 1876-47
W., Mar. 1860-23
MUSHETT
Mrs., 1878-113
MUSSEY
W. H., 1870-50
MYATT
Mr., Sept. 1860-36
MYERS
_____ (Mrs. Thomas Dickey), 1864-34
Mr., 1865-74; 1870-101, 102
Andrew, 1866-86
Emeline, 1866-86
Jacob, Nov. 1858-34
John, Nov. 1858-39
Liddia (Mrs. Joseph Strong), Mar. 1860-24
MYGATT
Capt., May 1859-16
Mr., 1864-12
C. S., 1864-21
Comfort, Mar. 1859-32
Comfort Jr., Mar. 1859-32
Comfort S., Nov. 1859-44
Eleanor (Mrs. C. S. Mygatt), 1864-21
George, 1861-48
Polly (Mrs. Elisha Whittlesey), 1864-11
Rebecca (Mrs. Bostwick), Mar. 1859-32

NALLOR
Mr., May 1859-22
NAPER
Mr., 1863-34
NAPOLEON
Emperor, 1866-2
NARENT
_____, 1867-10
NASH
Mr., Mar. 1859-2; 1866-67
Abel, 1866-67
Joel, Mar. 1860-22; 1866-67
NASON
A. W., 1878-3, 4
Solomon, 1876-82
NAWGLE
Anthony, 1865-68
Sarah (Mrs. Anthony Nawgle), 1865-68
NEAL
James C., 1861-24
NEAT
Dr., 1868-109
NEELY
Nicholas, Mar. 1860-22
NEGUS
Rebecca (Mrs. John Stockholm), 1868-68
NEIL-NEILL
Foster, 1874-61, 75
Thomas, 1874-61
NELSON
Mr., Mar. 1860-10
Almira Sherman (Mrs. J. Nelson), 1865-80
E., 1865-80
Eli, June 1858-37, 39; 1865-80
H. P., 1865-2
J., 1865-79, 80
John, 1865-2, 3, 80
S. S., 1867-75
T., Mar. 1860-29
NETTLETON
A. B. (Gen.), 1867-4
NEUERT
Jacob, 1861-15
NEWBERRY
Mr., 1865-119
C. (Mrs.), 1864-4, 5
Celia (Mrs.), 1863-3; 1865-89
Walter L., 1865-104
NEWCOMB
Mr., Nov. 1858-14; Mar. 1859-35; 1863-68; 1864-84; 1866-74; 1876-92, 93
Benjamin, June 1858-33; Nov. 1858-4, 14; Mar. 1859-26, 37, 39, 40; May 1859-16, 26, 27, 28; Nov. 1859-44, 45; Sept. 1860-39, 42; 1862-83; 1864-21, 22; 1874-80; 1876-33, 62; 1878-82, 83
Benjamin Clark, Nov. 1859-44
Clark, Mar. 1859-41
Mary, Nov. 1859-45
Mary (Mrs. Comstock), Mar. 1859-41
S. S., Nov. 1859-44
Samuel S., Nov. 1859-44
Sterling, Nov. 1858-15; Mar. 1859-39, 40; 1878-1
T. S., Nov. 1859-45
Timothy, Mar. 1859-37, 39, 40; Nov. 1859-45
NEWCOME
Mr., Mar. 1859-14
NEWMAN
Mr., 1874-22; 1876-15

NEWMAN continued
C. E., Nov. 1858-2; 1861-6; 1863-5, 8, 9; 1866-2; 1868-13; 1876-16, 17, 45, 52, 56, 58, 69, 71; 1878-1, 2, 3, 4, 5
Charles E., 1865-89; 1876-69, 72
James, Nov. 1858-16
Morris A., Mar. 1860-21, 22
Shubel, 1876-56, 58, 59
NEWTON
Mrs., 1870-5
Alfred (Rev. Dr.), May 1859-23; Nov. 1859-13; Sept. 1860-1; 1861-4, 6, 46; 1862-5; 1863-4; 1864-1, 4, 5, 10; 1865-89; 1866-1, 15; 1867-6, 49; 1868-72; 1870-1; 1874-9, 12, 15, 85; 1876-6, 15, 17, 70, 102; 1878-1
Daniel, 1868-45
Eber, 1876-29
J. M., 1870-50
William (Rev.), 1876-53, 71
NICHOLS
Mrs., 1870-5
C. M., 1870-50
David, 1862-7
Henry, 1868-11
Ira, Mar. 1860-43
Marion (Mrs. John H. Niles), 1878-75
Moses, Sept. 1860-19; 1868-3
Orra (Mrs. Arctus Gilmore), Mar. 1860-24
NICKERSON
Azor H. (Lt.), 1876-78, 80
Betsey (Mrs. Ebenezer M. Barnum), 1868-96
Ebenezer B., 1868-96
Nancy (Mrs.), 1876-98
NICKSHAW
Mr., 1870-99, 100; 1874-39
NICOLLS
Sarah, 1876-119
NIEL
Thomas, Sept. 1860-11
NILES
Dr., Mar. 1859-36; 1863-3
Mr., 1870-5
Betsy Auvice (Mrs. Henry), 1865-122
Claudius, 1865-122
Cyrus, Mar. 1860-41
D. H., 1865-90
Daniel, Mar. 1860-42
Elizabeth (Mrs. Darius Dirlam), 1865-123
Franklin, 1865-122
H., Mar. 1860-2
H. (Dr.), 1862-8; 1864-9
Henry, Nov. 1858-18; 1865-122
Henry (Dr.), Nov. 1858-18; 1865-4, 122
Henry F., 1865-122
J. B., 1876-10
J. H., 1867-85; 1868-7; 1870-1, 2, 6, 7, 8, 9; 1874-3, 18, 31; 1876-8, 10, 13, 15, 16; 1878-1, 3
John B., Mar. 1860-42
John H., June 1858-30; Nov. 1858-1, 2; Mar. 1860-42; Sept. 1860-1; 1861-6; 1862-5; 1863-7; 1864-4, 6, 57; 1865-82, 83, 123; 1866-1, 2, 6, 8, 10, 42; 1867-1, 3, 4, 6; 1868-2; 1870-50; 1874-2, 12, 20, 22, 30, 37; 1878-5, 74, 75, 76
NILES continued
John M., Mar. 1860-32
Louisa, 1865-123
Lucretia Miner (Mrs. Henry Niles), 1865-122
Lucretia Taft (Mrs. Henry Niles), 1865-122
M. P. (Mrs.), 1870-33
Mariah, 1865-123
NIMMO
Judge, 1864-118
NIMS
Joel B., 1866-95
Samuel, Nov. 1859-8, 9; 1866-35
W., 1861-4
Worthington, 1866-35, 95
NITCHMAN
Bishop, 1862-60
NIVER
C. B., 1865-89; 1878-5
Charles B., Mar. 1860-37
P. D.,(Mrs.), 1865-89
NIXON
Charles, 1874-60
James, 1864-55, 75
NOBLE-NOBLES
Electa Snow (Mrs. John Nobles), Mar. 1860-24
John (Col.), Mar. 1860-24; 1870-94, 95
L. H., 1865-90
NORRIS
John, 1870-113
Luther, Nov. 1859-21
Asahel, 1868-86
NORTH
S. P. 1870-11
NORTHROP
Capt., 1867-41
John, 1864-57
NORTON
_____ Bartow (Mrs. Leonard Norton), Nov. 1858-41
Mr., 1876-91
A. Banning, 1864-5
Cynthia Post (Mrs. Z. Norton), 1863-55
D. C. (Mrs.), 1874-22
John, 1870-110
Leonard, Nov. 1858-41
Z., 1863-55
NOT
S. A., 1864-55
NOWELL
Lucy Langdom, 1874-43
NUMAN
Charles, Mar. 1860-42
John, Mar. 1860-38
NYE
Dr., 1874-11
A., 1865-89
Albert, 1874-59, 74
Arius (Judge), 1866-96
D. H., 1865-90
H. R. (Rev.), 1876-62
Ichabod (Col.), 1866-92

OAKFORD
Col., 1876-79
OASTIN
John, 1868-7
O'BANNON
P. N. 1870-51
O'BRIEN
Mr., 1870-114
OCKS
Theodore, 1874-61, 75
ODELL
Isaac, 1874-60
William, 1874-59
OEHM
William, 1874-61
OGDEN
Mrs., 1868-3
Amos, 1864-63, 64, 65
William B., 1865-103
OGELTHORPE
General, 1862-60
OGLE
B. F., 1876-77
OKILL
J. J. (Rev.), 1876-50
OLCOTT
Mr., June 1858-25
Clarissa (Mrs. John Dillingham), 1867-70
OLDFIELD
Albert, 1876-99
Jonathan, 1876-99
OLDS
Mrs., 1861-25
C. V., Mar. 1859-19; 1865-13; 1867-108
Henry (Major), 1866-76
Kingsley, Mar. 1860-23
Margaret Widner (Mrs. Kingsley Olds), Mar. 1860-23
OLIVER
_____ Wade (Mrs.), 1866-88
David (Judge), 1866-87, 91
OLMSTEAD-OLMSTED
Aaron, Nov. 1859-24, 25, 26
Aaron Franklin, Nov. 1859-26
Charles Hyde, Nov. 1859-26
G. G., Mar. 1860-22
Gideon, 1866-54
Horace Bigelow, Nov. 1859-26
J., Sept. 1860-39
J. S., Mar. 1860-22
Mary L., Nov. 1859-26
Moses, Nov. 1858-36
Nancy (Mrs. Ransom Cooner), Mar. 1860-25
Samuel, 1864-57
OMIG
John, 1866-95
O'NEIL
James, 1874-44
ONSTINE
Daniel, 1874-44
Fred'k, 1874-44
Henry, 1874-44
ORD
Gen. 1874-71, 72
ORDWAY
N., 1868-49
O'REILLY
Mr., 1865-105
ORHHOUT
Mr., Mar. 1860-22
O'RILEY
James K., 1876-78
ORMES
Sally (Mrs. Nahum Gilson), 1866-78
Sarah, Mar. 1860-42
ORTON
Charles J., 1861-13, 14
T. S., 1861-14
OSBORN-OSBORNE
Mr. 1862-3; 1865-3; 1870-68, 72
Mrs. 1864-74
Albert, 1867-27
Ann Palmer (Mrs. Ebenezer Osborn), 1864-7; 1867-27; 1868-83
Charity Kniffin, 1864-76, 78
Ebenezer, 1864-7; 1865-90; 1867-26, 27; 1868-5, 6, 82, 83; 1870-2, 49
Ebenezer Jr., 1870-49
Eunice, 1866-5
G. B., 1870-33
J. R., 1878-63
John, Mar. 1860-28, 29
John R., 1861-11; 1876-70
Lewis, Nov. 1858-32
Lusena (Mrs. Elanson Rose), 1876-118
M. E. (Mrs.), 1870-33; 1874-22
M. W., 1865-90
Mary, 1867-27
R., 1864-2; 1865-2
Sally (Mrs. Sheldon Hine), 1862-17
OSGOOD
Joseph, 1863-51
OSIER
Joseph, May 1859-24
OSTERHOUT
John, 1870-33
OSWALD
Mr., 1861-41; 1862-49
OTIS
Family, 1862-27
Mr., June 1858-44
F. R., 1865-90
W. C., 1870-24
O'TOOL
John, 1876-86
OTT
Albert, 1874-61, 75
OVERHISER
Margaret (Mrs. George H. Clock), 1864-31
OVERS
Jacob, 1861-44, 45
OVIATT
Herman, 1870-101
OWEN-OWENS
Dr., 1876-11
Mr., 1863-90
D. C., 1863-3
H. W., 1874-2, 30; 1876-4, 6, 10, 15
H. W. (Mrs.), 1874-108

OWEN-OWENS continued
Henry, 1876-83
Henry W., 1876-15
Horatio N., Mar. 1860-38, 43
M. E., Sept. 1860-33
Mahala, 1868-12, 86
Martin G., Mar. 1860-38
S. W., 1878-104
Seymore W., Mar. 1860-43
OZIER
J., 1870-51
Joseph, 1865-50

PACKARD
Betsey (Mrs. Jacob Edson), 1862-7
Elijah, 1864-64
George, 1864-64
H., 1876-35
PAGE
Miss, 1866-4
Mr., 1864-104; 1868-17, 18
Amanda, 1864-33
Amanda (Mrs. Henry Dillingham), Mar. 1860-24; 1867-73, 102
Amelia Dean (Mrs. William Page), 1864-102
C. W., 1868-9
Daniel, 1864-8, 33, 34, 100, 101, 102
David, 1864-28
Hannah, June 1858-44; Sept. 1860-13, 48; 1864-8, 33
Hannah D. (Mrs. Ezra Herrick), 1864-100, 101, 102
Hexey (Mrs. Walter Ivery), 1864-33
Lexey (Mrs. Jabez F. Ivory) (Mrs. Charles Sweate), 1864-102
Louisa Smith (Mrs. Daniel Page), 1864-102
Lucy (Mrs. Jabeth Ivry), Mar. 1860-24
Mary Prindle (Mrs. William Page), 1864-102
Rebecca Moon (Mrs. Daniel Page), 1864-33
Rebecca Moore (Mrs. Daniel Page), 1864-100
Rufus, 1867-16
S. B. (Rev.), 1876-70
Sophia (Mrs. Calman Mason) (Mrs. Amos Felt), 1864-102
Stephen, Mar. 1859-11, 16
William, 1864-102
PAIN
Ira (Deacon), 1864-55
PAINE
Mr., 1863-63
Cynthia I., 1868-86
Cynthia J. Edwards (Mrs. Paine), 1863-63
F. C., 1874-2
F. C. (Rev.), 1874-2, 3, 5
George, 1868-86
Ira (Deacon), 1864-50
John O., 1876-82
Mary A., 1876-127
R. S., Nov. 1858-2; 1864-85
Rufus S., 1864-85, 86, 87, 89
Thomas, 1864-35
PALLADAY
Frank, 1863-5
PALMER
Esquire, May 1859-25, 26

PALMER continued
Miss, Mar. 1859-11
Mr., Mar. 1860-22
A. R. (Rev.), 1868-1, 95; 1870-2
Abijah, May 1859-33, 37; 1867-27, 74; 1868-28, 74, 76, 82
Adelia, 1868-74
Alva, 1868-74, 83
Ammi, 1868-94
Amy, 1878-109
Ann (Mrs. Ebenezer Osborn), 1864-7; 1867-27; 1868-83
Caleb, Nov. 1858-14, 46; Mar. 1859-9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 34, 47; Nov. 1859-46; Mar. 1860-23, 24; Sept. 1860-36, 37; 1862-81, 84; 1864-99; 1865-25; 1874-114; 1876-33
Caroline, 1868-82
Celia (Mrs.), 1864-6
Clarinda (Mrs. Abijah Palmer), 1868-82
David, Sept. 1860-38; 1868-4, 74; 1874-30, 37; 1876-10
Delia (Mrs. Justus Minor), 1868-35
Electa S. Jackson (Mrs. Jacob Guyselman), Mar. 1859-13
George (Mrs.), 1865-6
George W. (Rev.), 1868-94, 95
H., 1876-7
Hannah, 1868-74; 1878-109
Harriet Smith (Mrs. Caleb Palmer), Mar. 1859-11; Sept. 1860-37
Henry, 1868-73
Isaac, 1868-84
John C., 1864-3
Julia A. Briscoe (Mrs. Rundel Palmer), 1868-84
Levi, 1868-86; 1876-123
Linus, 1868-74, 83
Louisa M. (Mrs. Fairbanks), 1868-95
Lucius A., 1876-82
Luther, 1876-74
Marcus, 1868-84
Marcus (Dr.), 1867-28
Maria (Mrs. Moses Foote), 1868-83
Meigs, Mar. 1859-11, 13
R., June 1858-30; Nov. 1858-1
Robert, 1868-82
Runder, May 1859-37
Rundle, June 1858-30; May 1859-33, 37; 1864-71; 1865-90; 1868-9, 74, 84; 1878-109
Ruth (Mrs. Jesse Youngs), Mar. 1859-11, 13
S. C., 1862-4; 1867-75; 1874-12
Samuel, May 1859-37; 1868-4, 5, 74; 1878-109
Samuel C., 1865-90
Samuel Sr., 1874-12, 20
Sarah, 1867-28
Sarah (Mrs. Leonard Briggs), 1868-83
Seeley, 1864-7; 1867-27; 1868-74
Stephen D., Mar. 1859-9
Tamar, Sept. 1860-44
Tamia (Mrs. A. G. Post), 1868-82
PANCOST
Mary (Mrs. Edward Cole), 1865-53
PANE
_____, Nov. 1859-47
PARISH-PARRISH
B. F., 1865-90

PARISH continued
Francis D. (Judge), June 1858-25, 26, 28, 30, 31, 48; Nov. 1858-2; Mar. 1859-16, 20, 21, 23, 24; Nov. 1859-25; Sept. 1860-1, 6; 1861-1; 1862-8; 1863-2, 5, 6, 7, 94; 1864-4, 5, 8; 1865-1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 7; 1866-1, 2, 5, 6, 8, 10; 1867-1, 6, 7, 8, 82; 1868-1, 2, 4, 10, 12, 43, 81; 1870-1, 2, 4, 5, 6, 8, 60, 61; 1874-1, 2, 3, 4, 12, 19, 20, 22, 23, 25, 30, 34, 35, 37; 1876-10, 11, 12, 15, 16, 36, 44, 73, 125; 1878-3, 25, 26, 108
Joseph, Mar. 1860-24
Mary O. Abbot (Mrs. Francis D. Parish), Nov. 1859-25
O., June 1858-25
Orris, 1874-115
Sarah Johnson (Mrs. Joseph Parish), Mar. 1860-24
William, June 1858-30; Nov. 1858-1, 2; Nov. 1859-18; Mar. 1860-2; Sept. 1860-1; 1863-7; 1864-2; 1865-90; 1866-35; 1870-2; 1874-2, 12, 15, 18, 20, 29, 30, 34, 37; 1876-10
William (Mrs.), 1874-29, 93
PARK
Mr., 1868-60
Charles A. (Lt. Col.), 1876-77, 79
Moses, 1868-116
Robert W., 1876-81
PARKER
Capt., May 1859-38, 39; 1878-83
Judge, 1864-3, 4, 5, 7; 1867-2, 4; 1868-75
Miss (Mrs. Charles Butler), Sept. 1860-15
Miss (Mrs. James Cleveland), Sept. 1860-15
Mr., Sept. 1860-43; 1863-67; 1865-57; 1876-22
Mrs., Mar. 1860-27
Rev., Nov. 1859-12
Widow, May 1859-19
Andrew, Mar. 1860-24
Andrus, Sept. 1860-15, 20, 21, 23
Anna (Mrs. Robinson), Mar. 1860-3; 1863-4
Benjamin E. (Rev.), June 1858-41; Mar. 1860-46, 47
Betsy (Mrs. Abijah Rundle), 1862-9
Betsy Benjamin (Mrs. Andrew Parker), Mar. 1860-24
C. S. (Hon.), Sept. 1860-44; 1870-6, 9
Catherine (Mrs. George Parker), Mar. 1860-46
Charles, 1878-78
Charles (Capt.), Nov. 1858-44, 45; Mar. 1859-1, 5, 13, 26, 27; Nov. 1859-9, 22; Mar. 1860-46, 47; Sept. 1860-4; 1862-9; 1864-8, 84, 99; 1865-25; 1868-60
Charles (Mrs.), 1864-33
Clarissa (Mrs. Charles Butler), Sept. 1860-16
Clark (Capt.), Mar. 1859-5; Mar. 1860-47
E. C., 1860-46, 47; 1865-90
Edward, 1862-14
Elihu, Sept. 1860-23
Elisha, Sept. 1860-15
George, Mar. 1860-46
George T., Mar. 1860-47; 1862-14
George V. H., 1865-90
PARKER continued
Green (Rev.), Nov. 1858-18; Mar. 1859-36; Mar. 1860-46, 47; Sept. 1860-15; 1862-42
Grissel, 1862-14
Hanford, 1862-14
Henry, Mar. 1860-23; 1876-123
Herrick, 1863-81
Hezekiah, 1862-14
Hiram, 1866-35
Hiram C., Mar. 1860-47
I. C., 1858-30
Ira A., Mar. 1860-47
J. C. (Rev.), Mar. 1859-36
J. T., Sept. 1860-1; 1876-16; 1878-2
Jacob, June 1858-25
Jane, 1863-4; 1865-90
Jane Ammerman (Mrs. Seth C. Parker), 1870-42
John H., Mar. 1860-47
Lovina C. (Mrs. Hodges), Mar. 1860-47
Lucene (Mrs. Crowe), Mar. 1860-47
Lurene V. (Mrs. Hodges), Mar. 1860-47
M. A. Wright, 1862-14
Maria A. (Mrs. Wright), 1862-14
Maria H., Mar. 1860-47
Mary (Mrs. Drury), Mar. 1860-47
Mary Sherarts (Mrs. Herrick Parker), 1863-81
N., Nov. 1858-2
Nancy (Mrs. Tinker R. Smith), Mar. 1860-23
Nelson, 1876-123
Ormel, 1874-6
Rial, 1876-123
Rowland T., 1870-112
Ruth Sherman (Mrs. Henry Parker), Mar. 1860-23
Sally (Mrs. David Conger), 1862-9; 1876-123
Sarah Elliot (Mrs. Thomas Parker), Mar. 1860-46
Seth C. (Rev.) (Judge), June 1858-28,30, 31, 40, 48; Nov. 1858-1, 2, 18; Mar. 1860-1, 2, 3, 46, 47; Sept. 1860-1; 1861-4, 6; 1862-3, 4, 5, 8; 1863-3, 4, 5; 1864-2, 5, 7, 8; 1865-1, 3, 5, 90; 1866-2, 3; 1867-1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6; 1868-2, 4, 5, 6; 1870-2, 42, 43; 1876-69
Thomas, Mar. 1860-46; 1870-42
V. H. (Gen.), 1864-8
Washington, Sept. 1860-15
William, 1876-123
William F., 1876-82
Wilson S., 1876-82
PARKETON
L. K., 1868-86
PARKMAN
Mr., 1867-10, 12
PARKS
Dr., 1870-74
Mrs., 1864-3
Amos, Mar. 1859-46; 1876-58
Elizabeth Brightman, 1865-52

PARKS continued
J. (Major), 1864-2
Josias (Major), 1862-7
Nathan, 1874-100
PARMENTER
Charles, 1874-59
PAROTT-PARROTT
_____ Smith (Mrs. Frederick Parott), 1864-39
Frederick, 1864-39
PARSON-PARSONS
Major, Mar. 1859-29, 32; 1870-68, 74
Mr., Nov. 1858-30; May 1859-46; 1868-34
Mrs., 1866-78; 1868-34, 41
A., 1868-58
Aaron, Mar. 1860-26
Almon R., 1863-81
Alvah, 1863-81
B., 1866-4
Burt, 1864-32
Burton, Nov. 1858-39; 1863-74, 81, 82
Charlotte Pelton (Mrs. Levi Parsons), 1863-81
Corrington, 1863-81
Dennis, 1863-81
E. C., 1862-5; 1865-90; 1870-11
Edward, 1863-82
Ellen, 1863-81
Elvira (Rev.), 1870-31
George, 1865-30
Henry, 1863-82
Ira, Nov. 1858-39; 1863-81; 1874-29, 93
James, 1863-81
John, 1863-81
Joseph, Nov. 1859-15, 19; 1876-34
Lavina Clark (Mrs. Burton Parsons), 1863-81
Levi, Nov. 1858-39; 1863-81, 82; 1876-112
Lovina Clock (Mrs. Burt Parsons), 1864-32
Maria Davis (Mrs. Ira Parsons), 1863-81
Maria Michael (Mrs. Levi Parsons), 1863-81
Mary Burgess (Mrs. Burton Parsons), 1863-81
Nelson, 1863-81
Phoebe, 1863-81
R. C. (Hon.), 1866-78
Samuel H., 1868-22; 1870-62
Samuel Holden, 1864-5
Sarah (Mrs. Dickerman), 1863-81, 82
Solomon, Nov. 1858-39; 1863-73, 81
Theophilus (Judge), 1867-102
William, 1863-82
PARVIN
Theodore S., 1866-84
PATCH
George C., 1870-33
H., 1870-74
Hoyt, Mar. 1859-29
John H., Mar. 1859-32, 33
PATCHEN
A., 1866-95
PATCHIN
A. M., 1865-71, 72
PATRICK
Mr., 1868-79; 1876-49
Deborah Ferris, 1876-119
R. F., 1868-9
S., 1863-9; 1876-52, 58
PATRICK continued
Shepherd, 1876-58
PATTEE
Elder, 1876-27
Cecelia (Mrs. Ashley Hollister), 1876-27
True (Rev.), June 1858-40; Nov. 1858-35; 1863-51; 1865-15; 1866-24; 1868-32, 33; 1876-63, 107; 1878-92
William, 1862-29
PATTERSON
Mr., 1870-67, 69
G. S., 1863-71; 1876-63
George S., 1865-90
Hugh, Sept. 1860-8
Robert, 1870-115
PATTINGER
Mr., 1864-66
PAUL
Doddridge, 1868-61
Hester (Mrs. Obediah Jenney), Nov. 1858-22; May 1859-24
Hosea, 1878-5
James (Col.), 1874-19
Roxa Whitney (Mrs. Doddridge Paul), 1868-61
PAXON
James, 1863-67
PAXTON
Mr., June 1858-46; 1862-13
James (Mrs.), 1876-23
John, June 1858-46; 1862-40; 1867-72
Mary Ann Benschoter (Mrs. Paxton), 1862-13
PAYNE
Rev. Mr., 1874-106
E. B., (Rev.), 1876-1
F. C., 1870-11
Henry B., 1864-106
J. E. (Rev.), 1876-2
James, Mar. 1859-1
James G., 1866-87
James H., 1876-84
PEABODY
Elias, 1876-29
PEAK-PEAKE
Daniel, 1862-20
Elizabeth Hine Lewis (Mrs. Oliver Peake), 1862-19
George, 1862-20
Hiram, 1862-20
Mary Benschoter (Mrs. Oliver Peak), 1862-20
Mary J. (Mrs. George Douglas), 1862-20
Oliver, 1862-19, 20; 1878-109
PEARCE
Mr., 1864-15
_____ Rusco (Mrs. Varney Pearce), 1864-70
Joseph (Dr.), Mar. 1859-37, 41; Nov. 1859-37; Sept. 1860-40, 41, 42; 1864-22
Roby (Mrs. Moses Thorpe), Mar. 1860-25
V., 1864-76
Varney, 1864-70, 76, 77, 80; 1876-5, 34
William, 1876-78
PEARL
Addison, 1862-26
Albert, 1862-26
Ancil H., 1862-26

PEARL continued
Emeline (Mrs. Ellis), 1862-26
Harriet, 1862-26
Jerome, 1862-26
Marilla, 1862-26
Mary (Mrs.), 1862-26; 1867-75; 1878-3
O. S., 1867-75
Oliver, 1862-26
Uriah Utley (Mrs. Oliver Pearl), 1862-26
William, 1862-26
PEARSON - PEARSONS
Abel S., Mar. 1860-22
Francis, 1876-83
PEASE
Miss (Mrs. F. W. Krider), 1867-2
Mr., 1864-75
Calvin, June 1858-24; 1861-42
Clarissa (Mrs.), 1867-2
David H., Mar. 1860-3; Sept. 1860-1; 1861-4, 5, 6, 7; 1862-4, 6, 8; 1863-2, 4, 7; 1864-2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 100; 1865-1, 2, 82, 90; 1866-1, 2, 4, 6, 7; 1867-1, 2, 4, 6; 1868-2, 3, 4, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10; 1870-2, 4, 7, 50, 72, 73; 1874-1, 2, 3, 7, 8, 10, 12, 15, 16, 21, 22, 93; 1876-3
Erastus, 1868-3
Gaius (Major), 1861-42
Peter P., 1876-29
Robert, 1868-4, 8, 9
Seth, 1865-27; 1867-15, 16, 17, 75; 1878-13
W. T., (Capt.), 1866-57
PECK
Mr., 1868-41
Abijah, 1874-102
Abraham, 1870-77, 78
Argalus, Mar. 1860-30
Charles, Mar. 1859-32; 1870-74; 1874-36
Frances (Mrs. Daniel Beach), 1864-50
George, 1876-4
George (Mrs.), 1876-4
H. (Lt.), 1876-85
H. T., Mar. 1860-29
Harry, 1868-6
Hiram (Capt.), 1876-84
Ira, May 1859-24; 1876-126
Joshua, 1864-55
Lucy (Mrs. Jesse Kingsbury), 1874-102
Lydia (Mrs. Carlton H. Sturdevant), 1864-51
Philemon R., 1863-6; 1865-90
Polly, 1874-102
R. R., 1863-6
R. T., Mar. 1860-29
Rebecca, 1874-36
Sally Hunt (Mrs. Truman Peck), Mar. 1860-24
Stephen, 1874-53
Taylor, 1864-53
Truman, Mar. 1860-24
Tylor, 1864-50
PECKHAM
Mr., 1868-41
PEET
S. B., 1878-4
PEIRCE
A. W., 1876-14
Jacob W., Sept. 1860-40
PEIXOTTO
Mr., 1866-14
PELTIER
_____, 1867-10
PELTON
Allen, 1862-3; 1863-80, 81; 1866-95; 1876-112
Austin, 1863-81; 1876-112
Charlotte, 1876-112
Charlotte (Mrs. Levi Parsons), 1863-81
Eliza Davis (Mrs. Franklin Pelton), 1863-81
Eunice, 1866-5
Eunice Sturges (Mrs. Sylvester A. Pelton), 1863-81
Fanny Cuddeback (Mrs. Allen Pelton), 1863-80, 81
Franklin, 1863-81; 1876-112
George, 1863-81
Josiah, 1876-111, 112
Josiah S. (Capt.), 1863-73, 74, 81; 1876-111, 112
Josiah S. Jr., 1863-81
Juliana, 1876-112
Levi A., 1863-81
Lucy, 1863-81; 1876-111, 112
Lucy (Mrs. John Miller), 1863-81
Lucy (Mrs. William Treat), Mar. 1860-25
Mary Ann, 1863-81
Phebe, 1876-111, 112
Phoebe (Mrs. Anson Cooper), 1863-81
S. A., 1866-5
S. Augustin, 1876-112
Sarah Sturges (Mrs. Austin Pelton), 1863-81
Sophia Leonard (Mrs. Josiah S. Pelton), 1863-81
Sylvester A., 1863-81
PEMBERTON
Mr., 1870-110
PENFIELD
Mr., 1876-73
Amos, 1870-33
Catherine Hawley (Mrs. Peter Penfield), 1866-79
J. J., 1861-3, 15
Peter, 1866-79
R. H., 1866-79; 1874-44
Samuel, 1864-41
PENN
John, 1862-33
William, June 1858-16; 1862-32
PENNEWELL
C. E. (Judge), Sept. 1861-6; 1874-3, 100
S., Mar. 1859-21, 24
Samuel, 1874-100
PENNYMAN
James, Mar. 1860-32
PENZLER
Augustus, Mar. 1860-30
PERCY
Mr., 1876-98
Truman, 1876-96

PERKINS
Commissioner, Mar. 1859-46
General, Sept. 1860-39; 1864-13
Judge, 1865-74
Mr., 1867-11
Elias, (Hon.), 1865-9
George, Mar. 1860-27
Jesse, 1870-26
John S., 1866-86
Joseph, 1870-50
N. S. C., 1874-21
Nancy Bishop (Mrs. Simon Perkins), 1862-90, 91
Simon, 1862-90, 91; 1865-31
Simon (General), June 1858-23, 24; Mar. 1859-5, 26; May 1859-38, 39; Sept. 1860-5; 1863-33, 34; 1870-86; 1878-17, 80, 81
PERRIN
Gurdin, Mar. 1859-1
Z., 1868-86
PERRING
Frederick, Mar. 1860-8, 9
PERRIZ
Z., 1868-86
PERRY
_____, 1876-66, 67, 68
Major, 1866-80, 81
Miss, 1864-118
Mr., 1861-2; 1864-101; 1865-55; 1870-112
Mrs., 1864-34
_____ Metcalf, 1865-67
_____ Prentiss (Mrs Horatio Perry), 1863-82
_____ Smith (Mrs. Horatio Perry), 1863-82
A. H., 1861-3
Abner, 1876-84
Amanda (Mrs. Williams), Mar. 1859-1
Daniel, 1874-44
Horatio, Nov. 1858-39; Mar. 1860-25; 1863-72, 73, 82, 86; 1866-68
Louisa (Mrs.), 1866-86
Mary D., 1876-127
Nathan, Mar. 1860-22; 1865-55; 1866-80
O. H. (Commodore), Nov. 1858-3; May 1859-22; 1863-77; 1864-51; 1867-28; 1874-41
O. S., 1876-127
Peter P. (Col.), 1868-15
R. C., 1865-90; 1860-95
Royal, 1861-3
Sarah (Mrs.), 1863-4
Sophia (Mrs. Hamlin), 1863-82
Winslow, Mar. 1859-1
PERSONS
Mr., 1874-27
E. (Rev.), 1870-46; 1874-26, 27
Thomas, 1874-61
PETERS
Adaline Harkness, 1876-122
Adda, 1874-11
E., 1876-58
Israel, 1876-122
William B., 1868-13
PETINGILL
Mr., 1867-72
PETRIE
Jacob, Mar. 1859-37, 39
PETTENGILL
Samuel, Mar. 1859-2
PETTEYS
Walter, 1867-6, 75
PETTIBONE
Esquire, 1865-43
_____ (Mrs. Kelly), 1863-25
Mr., 1868-15; 1870-73
Mrs., Mar. 1859-25; 1863-25; 1868-14
_____ Wolcott (Mrs. Pettibone), Mar. 1859-25; 1863-25
Phebe (Mrs.), 1868-10
Roswald, 1878-31
Truman, 1865-45, 49; 1868-10, 11; 1870-69; 1878-31
PETTINGILL
Joshua, Sept. 1860-16, 17
Samuel, Sept. 1860-16
PETTY
Rev., 1878-28
PHEATT
Capt., 1865-97
PHELPS
Mr., 1866-111, 112, 113
Charles (Major), 1863-95
Edward M., 1876-58
John, 1861-25
Samuel W., 1858-24
PHILLIP
Louis (King of France), 1865-105
PHILIPS-PHILLIPS
Dr., 1862-3; 1874-103
Elder, Sept. 1861-23; 1876-63
Judge, Mar. 1860-2; 1861-2, 5; 1863-8, 9
Mr., June 1858-46
Mrs., (Mrs. Hial Hunt), 1864-35
Pres., 1876-11
Rev., 1866-24
Abram, 1868-5
Ann Furgerson (Mrs. Philips), June 1858-46
Betsy, 1876-22
Betsey Ruggles (Mrs. Xenophon Phillips), 1863-85
Cora, 1874-103
Cora R., 1863-85
Daniel, Mar. 1860-10
Eliza (Mrs. Chapman), 1862-21
Emilie A., 1863-85
Emily, 1874-103
Eunice C., 1865-90
Ezekiel, 1878-110
Franklin, 1874-60
John L., 1874-60
Joshua, 1862-21, 29; 1874-24, 25, 102
Lina E., 1863-85
Maria, 1878-110
Maria Smith, 1876-15
Marinda (Mrs. Abraham Ferris), 1864-52
Mary, 1874-103
Mary E., 1863-85
Rebecca, 1874-24, 93
Rebecca (Mrs. Lowry), 1862-21
Rebecca Smith (Mrs. Joshua Phillips), 1862-21
Solomon, 1862-21

PHILIPS-PHILLIPS continued
Xenophon (Dr.), Nov. 1858-1, 4, 31, 34; 1862-13, 21; 1863-4, 85; 1865-90; 1874-102
Zalumna (Judge), June 1858-30; Nov. 1858-1; Mar. 1860-1; Sept. 1860-1; 1861-1, 6, 7; 1862-6, 8, 21, 28; 1863-2, 4, 5, 7; 1864-1, 2; 1865-1, 2, 3, 6, 90; 1866-1, 2, 4, 6, 7, 8, 9; 1867-1, 4; 1868-2, 4, 5, 6, 9, 10, 13; 1870-1, 2, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 12, 50; 1874-1, 2, 3, 5, 8, 11, 12, 15, 16, 18, 19, 20, 21, 23, 24, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30, 31, 34, 37, 38; 1876-6, 7, 8, 10, 16; 1878-2, 3, 21
Zebah, 1862-21
PHILO
Asahel, 1878-62
Azor, Mar. 1859-22
PIATT
A. Saunders (Col. Gen.), 1876-83, 84
John H., 1870-53
PICKARD
Andrew J., 1876-84
Benjamin F., 1876-86
Henry, 1868-74; 1870-52
J., Mar. 1860-31
J. N., May 1859-33; 1868-74
Joseph, 1868-84
PICKEREL
J. N., May 1859-35
PICKETT
Dr., 1863-44
Mr., 1868-98
Mrs., (Mrs. Pickett), 1863-44
PIER
_____, 1868-3
James B., 1868-61
Lucy Adams (Mrs. James B. Pier), 1868-61
Lucy Merry (Mrs. Pier), 1868-3
PIERCE
_____ (Mrs. Samuel R. Barns), 1868-34
Capt., 1868-32, 33, 34, 40
Mr., May 1859-19; 1867-65
Mrs., 1868-36
A., 1863-5
A. W., 1876-127
Alden, June 1858-38, 40; Nov. 1858-16, 17; Mar. 1859-35; 1864-67; 1876-60
Aldin, 1864-67
Alexander, June 1858-37, 38, 39; 1865-79; 1867-23, 26
Amelia, Mar. 1860-27; 1874-106
Amial C., Nov. 1859-39
Amial P. (Capt.), Nov. 1859-39, 40; Mar. 1860-29; 1865-90; 1868-9, 30, 31, 48, 49, 58, 97, 98; 1874-106
Amos, 1865-90
Benjamin, 1870-112
Clarrisa, 1866-3
David S., 1868-86
Dothee E., Mar. 1860-28
Elbert, 1874-106
Electa (Mrs. A. P. Pierce), Mar. 1860-29
Frankie, 1874-106
George, 1864-28, 34
H., 1865-79
H. B., 1868-86
Harvey, 1863-8
PIERCE continued
Husted, 1876-86
J. S. (Deacon), 1863-7; 1864-1, 1870-12
J. W., 1867-45
Joel, 1868-97
John, 1874-88
Joseph, 1878-2, 110
Joseph (M. D.), May 1859-26, 28
Julia, 1874-106
L (Mrs.), 1874-7
L. B., 1874-43
L. B. (Mrs.), 1868-86
Lecta, Nov. 1859-40
Lemuel, 1868-41, 42
Lemuel B., Mar. 1860-27; 1868-41; 1874-106
Lida, Mar. 1860-31
Lovina (Mrs. William Smith), Nov. 1858-17; Mar. 1859-35; Mar. 1860-24
M., Mar. 1860-28
Martha (Mrs. Nathaniel Mills), 1876-124
Matilda, 1868-68
Minerva (Mrs.), 1863-6
Minot, 1868-6, 41
Newman, May 1859-21
Perry, Mar. 1860-27
Polly Curtiss (Mrs. Alexander Pierce), June 1858-37, 38; 1862-5; 1863-2, 8, 9; 1865-79, 90; 1866-4, 7, 82; 1867-23, 24, 25, 26, 65; 1878-59
Susan Curtis (Mrs. Minot Pierce), 1868-41
W. A., 1867-6
Wilbur F. (Capt.), 1876-78, 80
William, 1874-106
PIERCY
W., Mar. 1860-29
PIERSON
Mabel (Mrs. Franklin), 1868-8
W. S., 1878-25
PIKE
General, Mar. 1860-44
James, (Capt.), 1861-24
PINNEY
_____ (Mrs. Johnson Wheeler), 1868-53
Levi (Capt.), 1867-96
PIRAULT
Mr., 1862-88
PITCAIRN
Major, 1866-115
PITKIN
Rev., Nov. 1859-12, 33; Sept. 1860-6; 1868-71
Caleb, 1868-71
PITT
Mr., 1874-50
PITTENGER
Nathaniel, 1870-51
PIXLEY
Mr., Mar. 1859-7, 26, 27, 45; May 1859-26; 1878-17
A., 1863-57
Alanson, Sept. 1860-44
Alva, Sept. 1860-44
Ariel, 1863-54, 55
Betsey, Sept. 1860-44
Cyntha Read (Mrs. Reuben C. Pixley), Mar. 1860-45
Margaret Ann Rulisson (Mrs. Perry Pixley), Mar. 1860-45

PIXLEY continued
Paul, 1863-54, 55, 59; 1876-35
Perry, Mar. 1860-45
Reuben, Mar. 1859-1, 28, 38, 39, 41, 48; Mar. 1860-45; Sept. 1860-42, 43, 45; 1862-41;1864-23, 101; 1865-5, 48; 1868-98
Reuben Jr., Mar. 1859-39; Sept. 1860-42
Reuben (Sen.), Mar. 1860-44, 45
Reuben C., Mar. 1860-44, 45
PLACE
Augustus, Mar. 1860-43
Sanford, Mar. 1860-43
PLATT
Abigail, 1865-90
Amiel (Mrs.), 1876-3
John, 1864-57
Levi, 1863-4, 73; 1864-4; 1865-6, 90; 1867-4; 1870-11
Polly (Mrs. Stephen Meeker), 1862-13; 1876-26
PLUMB
Mr., 1866-80
Elizabeth, Mar. 1860-32
Ralph (Hon.), 1861-2
POAG
_____ Sanders (Mrs. A. Jackson Poag), 1864-54
A. Jackson, 1864-54
James, 1864-53
John A., 1864-54
Laura C. Smith (Mrs. JamesPoag), 1864-53
Lydia E., 1864-54
Patty Clarisa (Mrs. A. W. Richards), 1864-54
Rachel C. (Mrs. J. C. Wright), 1864-54
Washington J., 1864-54
POE
Adam (Rev.), 1863-19; 1864-45, 118; 1866-24; 1870-40
POGUE
_____, 1863-68
Lucy Brown Miller (Mrs. Pogue), 1863-68
Lucy Downing (Mrs. Samuel Pogue), Mar. 1860-24
Samuel, Mar. 1860-24
POLLOCK
_____ (Mrs. John B. Fleming), 1863-66
Mr., Sept. 1860-11; 1867-22; 1876-33
Rev. Mr., 1867-90
Clarissa (Mrs. William Cogswell), Mar. 1860-24
Clem., 1870-114
Elijah, Mar. 1859-1
Elizabeth, 1876-33; 1878-16
Elizabeth (Mrs. John Flemman), June 1858-43
James S., 1876-77
W. W., Nov. 1859-29
William, Sept. 1860-12, 15; 1876-21
William W., June 1858-30, 31, 43; Nov. 1858-4; 1878-16
POMEROY
F. W., 1870-33
Julia (Mrs. A. F. Bly), 1867-87
S., 1868-73
Stephen, May 1859-35
Sylvester, 1865-49
Temperance, (Mrs. Timothy Tennant), 1862-24
POND
Mr., 1864-66
Betsy (Mrs. George Foster), 1878-103
D. P., 1870-8
D. S., 1878-103
E. F. (Mrs. and Mr.), 1870-8
Elvira (Mrs. Carlos Keith), 1862-10
Monson, 1858-40; 1862-10, 11; 1876-61
S. D., 1876-36
Stephen, 1863-59; 1876-35
W. H., 1864-64, 66
POOL
Widow, 1864-34
POPE
John (Rev.), 1864-56
PORTER
Col. Mar. 1859-19
Mr., 1866-75; 1867-78
Mrs., 1863-53; 1867-78; 1870-19
A., 1864-5, 6; 1870-8, 11; 1874-10
A. M., Sept. 1860-16, 19
Alexander, 1864-5; 1874-100
Alexander M., Sept. 1860-21; 1878-25
Asahel, 1867-78
Augustus W., 1876-83
Aurora, 1863-53
James, 1861-6
James (Rev.), 1866-102
P. T., 1876-35
Philo T., 1863-53, 56, 59
Rebecca (Mrs. Asahel Porter), 1867-78
T., (Mr.), 1870-19
POST
Family, 1868-59
Mrs., May 1859-34
A. G., 1861-6; 1865-51; 1867-27; 1868-82
Ashbel G., 1868-82
Bushnell, 1870-33
Christopher, Mar. 1860-38
Cynthia (Mrs. Z. Norton), 1863-55
Eleanor (Mrs. Richard Ruggles), 1863-86
Frederick, Mar. 1860-13; 1862-64
Nancy, 1867-27
Stephen, May 1859-24; 1863-54, 55; 1876-34; 1878-110
Stephen Jr., 1878-110
Stephen W., 1863-54; 1865-27, 29; 1876-24
Tamia (Mrs. A. G. Post), 1868-82
POTTER
Deacon, 1870-80, 81
Elihu, Sept. 1860-42
Mary (Mrs. Benjamin Mingus), Nov. 1858-35
POWEL
Calvin, Mar. 1860-42
POWELL
Col., 1876-85
Abram, Mar. 1860-1
Isaac, 1874-118
POWERS
_____ (Mrs. Woodruff), Mar. 1859-47
Mr., Nov. 1858-15; 1863-93
A. A., 1870-25, 26; 1876-36
Abraham, May 1859-20; 1862-81
Abram, Mar. 1859-47
D., Mar. 1860-22; 1878-25

POWERS continued
David, Mar. 1859-9, 15, 16, 20; Mar. 1860-22; 1870-36; 1878-25
Elizabeth (Mrs. Hanson Read), Mar. 1859-46
Ephraim, 1863-61
G., May 1859-25
Hosmer E. (Capt.), 1863-6
Isaac, 1859-46; 1865-48
Lemuel, Nov. 1859-46, 47
Phebe, Mar. 1859-47
Phebe (Mrs. James Wilson), 1862-83
R. C., 1870-25
Royal N. (Dr.), Mar. 1859-9, 10, 15, 16; Nov. 1859-46; Mar. 1860-22; 1865-49
POYER
Family, 1862-27
Esther (Mrs. Lester Clark), 1862-10
Joshua, 1862-18, 26
Polly Stevens (Mrs. William Poyer), 1862-22
William, 1862-22
PRATT
_____, 1878-101
Esquire, May 1859-33
Major, 1870-51
B. R., Mar. 1860-41
Benjamin, Nov. 1858-32
Benjamin R., 1876-86
Betsy McFarling (Mrs. Clark Pratt), Mar. 1860-25
Clark, Mar. 1860-25
D. M., 1874-103
DeMorris, 1868-86; 1876-70
Mary Roberts, 1868-86
PRAY
E. A., 1863-2; 1865-7; 1874-38
PRENTICE
Betsy Brooks (Mrs. James Prentice), Mar. 1860-1860-23
James, Mar. 1860-23, 24
PRENTISS
_____ (Mrs. Horatio Perry), 1863-82
Mrs., 1874-3
A. W., 1870-33
Betsey Brooks (Mrs. James Prentiss), 1863-83
C. (Dr.), 1874-33
Calvin, 1863-83
Chalmer (Dr.), 1874-32
Clarissa, 1863-83
Cyrus, 1863-83
Eliza (Mrs. Ransom B. Elsworth), 1864-39
Grace (Mrs.), 1868-13
Grace Turner (Mrs. Samuel Prentiss), 1868-94
James, 1863-72, 73, 83
John, May 1859-22; 1876-55
Jonathan, 1874-31
Luther, 1863-83
Obadiah (Dr.), 1876-17
Oliver, Sept. 1860-44
Sally, 1863-83
Samuel, 1868-94
Turner, 1868-94
Warren, 1863-83
PRESCOTT
William (Hon.), 1866-102
PRESTON
A., Sept. 1860-1
Charles A., June 1858-27, 28, 30; Nov. 1858-1; Sept. 1861-11; 1863-2, 4, 9; 1864-1, 2; 1865-1, 90; 1866-1; 1867-1; 1868-1, 2, 101; 1870-1; 1876-58
Esau, 1876-61
S., 1868-79, 80
Samuel, 1861-10, 11; 1868-80, 101
Simon, 1876-86
PRICE
Dr., 1868-23
Rees E., 1866-88
Sarah, 1866-88
PRICHARD
Jared, Nov. 1859-3
PRIEST
Degory, Mar. 1860-20
Josiah, 1862-8
Nancy A. W., 1874-76
PRINCE
Mr., 1870-110
Joseph, 1870-108
PRINDLE
Mary (Mrs. William Page), 1864-102
PROCTOR
_____, 1874-50
Col., 1867-72
General, 1861-41; 1870-93
Oliver, 1862-24
PROSSER
William, 1863-54; 1870-19
William S., 1870-33
PROUT
_____, June 1858-30
A. D., 1870-2
A. W., June 1858-30; Nov. 1858-2; 1865-45, 90; 1870-12
Andrew, 1876-16; 1878-2
George H., 1870-33
Mary E., 1865-90
Maud, 1870-33
PROUTY
A. H., 1874-53
Clinton, 1874-59
Emery, 1874-59
William R., 1874-59
PROVOST
Henry, 1863-39
PRUDDEN
Ezra, Mar. 1860-43
PUCKRIN
Thomas, 1874-10, 93
PULVER
Martin, 1865-90
PUMPHREY
Lt., 1874-72
J., 1865-46, 52
PUNDERSON
E. (Rev.), Nov. 1859-13; 1876-50, 55, 57
PURDY
Major, 1864-87
A. W., 1864-51
Alexander W., 1864-51
John H., 1864-51

PURDY continued
Ransom, 1864-87
Sarah Roorback (Mrs. A. W. Purdy), 1864-51
William, 1868-49
William A. C., 1864-51
PUTNAM
Mr., Nov. 1859-27
Mrs., June 1858-44; Nov. 1859-27; Sept. 1860-34
Aaron, 1866-102
Aaron Waldo, 1866-96
Dan., Sept. 1860-11, 12, 15, 46
Dan, Mar. 1860-23, 46; Sept. 1860-16, 17, 23
David, 1866-90, 92; 1870-63
Edwin, 1870-63
Ezra, Sept. 1860-12
Franklin, Sept. 1860-12
Ira, Sept. 1860-12, 15
Israel (Gen.), 1866-33, 92, 101, 102, 103; 1868-26
Louise Ensign (Mrs. Dan. Putnam), Mar. 1860-23; Sept. 1860-16
Mary, Sept. 1860-12, 13
Orlean, Sept. 1860-48
Orlin, June 1858-44; Sept. 1860-13
Rufus (Gen.), 1866-89, 90, 92; 1868-22, 23, 24; 1870-62; 1876-31
Uriel, Sept. 1860-12, 15
Uziel, Mar. 1860-21; Sept. 1860-14
W. P., 1866-91
William, 1866-90
William P. (Capt.), 1868-26
William Pitt, 1866-96
William R., 1866-89, 92
PUTNEY
Mr., 1870-72
PYLE
Thomas H., 1876-83

QUIGLEY
Capt., Mar. 1859-5, 6
Joseph, 1874-44
Joseph (Capt.), Mar. 1859-4
QUIMBY
Ephriam, 1865-29
Samuel, 1865-29
QUINBY
Ephriam, June 1858-24; Nov. 1858-28; Nov. 1859-25; 1878-15
QUINLEY
E., 1870-86
QUINT
A. H., (Rev.), 1862-95

RAAB
August, 1874-61
RADCLIFF
C. C., 1865-90
W. K., 1865-90
RADIN
Ruth, 1862-27
RAITT
Daniel G., May 1859-21; Mar. 1860-18, 81; 1865-43, 46, 52; 1868-81
RALEIGH
Sir Walter, 1866-97
RALSTON
Esquire, 1870-21
RAMLEY
William H., 1874-59
RAMSAY
(Lt.), May 1859-39
RAMSDALE-RAMSDEL-RAMSDELL
_____ (Mrs. Abiathar Sherley), 1870-68
_____ Wolcott (Mrs. Joseph Ramsdell), 1863-25; 1870-69
Capt., Mar. 1859-6
RAMSDELL
Mr., Mar. 1859-6; 1862-41; 1870-73; 1874-98; 1876-28
Mrs., 1863-25
Adelia, 1874-97
Horace, 1862-39; 1870-68, 70; 1874-16, 93, 97; 1878-31
Horace Jr., 1874-97
Jacob, 1870-68, 70; 1878-31
James, 1874-97
John, Mar. 1860-24; 1870-68, 70, 72; 1874-97; 1878-31
Joseph, 1862-41; 1865-57; 1868-14; 1870-68, 69, 70, 74
Lydia, 1874-97
Salyma, 1874-97
Sarah, 1874-97
Selina Woolcot (Mrs. John Ramsdel), Mar. 1860-24
V., 1865-57
Valentine, 1870-68, 70; 1878-31
RAMSDEN
Mr., June 1858-23
RAND
William H., 1865-113
RANDAL-RANDALL
Dr., 1863-16
Mrs., 1874-51
Charles, Nov. 1859-41; Mar. 1860-28
Henry, 1864-38
Isaac R., 1864-64
Israel, 1864-64
M. D., 1874-7
RANDOLPH
Capt., 1874-70, 72
Lt., 1874-73
J. F. Jr. (Capt.), 1874-58, 59, 74
Mary C., 1878-106
RANNEY
Rufus P., 1864-106
RANSOM
Capt., Nov. 1858-35
Esquire, 1864-22; 1868-17
Family, 1862-27
Asa (Capt.), Nov. 1858-35; 1862-15
C. H., 1865-90; 1867-88
Caroline Tenant (Mrs. R. M. Ransom), 1862-25
Delos C., 1874-61
Ebenezer, Mar. 1860-21; 1868-66
H. F. (Corp.), 1876-84, 85

RANSOM continued
I. W., 1870-31
Isaac, 1863-73; 1865-90
John, 1870-18
Judah, 1863-39
Judah William (Capt.), 1867-89, 113
Martha (Mrs. David Stiles), 1868-66
Nancy M. (Mrs. Judah W. Ransom), 1867-88, 89
R. M., 1862-25
RASH
Charles, 1866-35; 1868-80; 1876-116
Elmira, 1876-116
L., Nov. 1858-2; 1865-6
Levi, 1874-12
Livey, 1865-90; 1866-35; 1868-9; 1874-2, 18, 20, 30, 31, 34, 37; 1876-116
Maria, 1876-116
Nancy, 1876-116
S., June 1858-30
RATHBONE
Amos, 1864-75
Charles, 1864-53, 75
Hannah (Mrs. Joseph Ely), 1867-85
RATHBUN
John, 1868-86
Lucius, 1868-12
W. G., 1868-86
W. R., 1868-12
RATHBURN
Mr., 1870-95, 96
Daniel, 1876-28
RATUCHANCY
John, 1862-28
RAU
H., 1861-15
RAUCH
David, 1862-60
RAWS
_____, 1862-19
Mary Lewis (Mrs. Raws), 1862-19
RAWSON
Mr., 1876-98
J. M., 1865-90; 1876-98
RAY
_____ (Mrs. Oliver Culver), 1865-60
Dr., 1865-60
Charles H. (Dr.), 1865-110, 111, 112
David, Mar. 1860-43
Henry, 1876-86
RAYMOND
Mrs., 1865-79
A., 1862-7; 1870-12
Alanson, 1862-7; 1865-90; 1870-12; 1874-20, 30, 37; 1876-10; 1878-1
B. W., 1865-110
Clapp, 1864-57
Elizabeth, 1878-1
George (Capt.), 1864-89, 90
Hannah (Mrs. Jonathan Fitch), 1864-89
I. S., 1865-80
James, 1865-90; 1867-75
Josiah, 1876-82
Keziah (Mrs. Thaddeus Raymond), June 1858-38
Murwin (Mrs.), 1864-3
Nathaniel, 1864-57
Simon, June 1858-37
Thaddeus, June 1858-37, 38
RAYMOND continued
William, 1868-86
William H., 1862-7
William S., 1876-82
RAYNE
Col., 1878-82
READ-REED
_____ (Mrs. A. L. Backus), 1865-116
_____ (Mrs. Volney Beverstock), 1867-90
_____ (Mrs. Thomas Butman), 1862-15
_____ (Mrs. J. S. Gregory), 1865-116
Capt., 1865-104
Mr., Mar. 1859-35; Mar. 1860-22; Sept. 1860-22; 1863-57; 1866-52; 1867-91; 1876-91
A. N. (Dr.), June 1858-30; Nov. 1858-2; 1861-6; 1862-7; 1865-90
A. N., (Dr.), 1861-4; 1864-7
Abraham P., 1865-116
Alexander, 1865-116
Benjamin, 1866-35
Cyntha (Mrs. Reuben C. Pixley), Mar. 1860-45
E., 1864-33
E. W. H., 1874-58
Edgar, 1876-83
Elias, 1865-116
Elijah, 1862-7
Elizabeth Powers (Mrs. Hanson Reed), Mar. 1859-46
F. D., 1866-4; 1868-4, 13, 15, 16; 1870-4
Frank, Nov. 1858-17; 1867-4; 1874-31
Franklin, 1863-4
Franklin D., Nov. 1858-17; Mar. 1859-35, 47; 1860-38; 1862-4; 1864-65; 1865-4, 90; 1867-8, 81, 82; 1869-15, 16; 1876-33
Frederick, 1865-116
George, 1865-116
George I., 1876-86
Gratton W., 1874-60
Hanson, June 1858-33; Nov. 1858-14, 15, 17, 18; Mar. 1859-33, 38, 41, 46, 47, 48; May 1859-20, 27, 28; Mar. 1860-45; 1862-81, 83; 1864-23; 1874-88; 1876-33
Henry Sr., 1865-116
Henry Jr., 1865-116
Henry M., 1864-85
Isaac N., 1864-25
James, 1866-61; 1870-51; 1874-61, 75; 1878-93
James R.,Mar. 1860-3
John, 1865-55
John S., Nov. 1858-27; Mar. 1859-6; Mar. 1860-21, 23, 25; 1866-51; 1874-30
Joseph, Mar. 1860-40, 41, 44, 45; Sept. 1860-43; 1864-32; 1866-35, 36
Joseph F., Mar. 1860-21; 1864-28, 34
Laura Ann (Mrs. Allen Beverstock), 1864-34
Levi, Mar. 1860-45
Lovina (Mrs. James Breckenridge), 1864-32
Margaret Miles (Mrs. Isaac Newton Reed), 1864-25
Morris, Mar. 1860-41, 45
Rosamond M., Hubbell (Mrs. E. Read), 1864-33

READ-REED continued
S., Mar. 1859-26
S. S., 1865-71
Samuel, Nov. 1858-35; Mar. 1859-26; 1862-14, 15, 25, 28; 1863-81; 1866-3
Samuel H., 1865-90
Samuel R., 1865-116
Samuel S., 1862-28
Samuel W., 1874-60
Sarah (Mrs. Hosmer Merry), 1867-29
Seth, Mar. 1860-38; 1864-65
Thomas, Mar. 1860-36, 44, 45
Theodore (General), 1874-71
William, 1874-61
READING
P. (Mrs.), 1865-2; 1870-8
REALYE
Dence, Mar. 1860-24
Jane Vanest (Mrs. Dence Realye), Mar. 1860-24
REBER
George, 1876-12
RECHIE
Lydia M., (Mrs. Vellery Ezra Smith), 1864-52
REDDING
_____ (Mrs. Justin Sherman), 1868-32
REDDINGTON
Mr., 1868-8
REDFIELD
Mr., 1874-101
J., 1864-56
W., H., 1861-13
W. W., 1861-13
REDING
Mr., 1876-58
_____ Keeler (Mrs. P. Reding) 1870-8
John, 1876-126
L., 1864-3; 1867-8
Loyal, 1865-90; 1876-126
P., (Mrs.), 1870-8
Parmelia, 1863-4
REEBER
Charles B., 1876-81
REED - SEE READ AND REID
REEDER
Mr., 1864-117
E. B., 1866-86, 89, 90
Eden B., 1864-117
Joseph A., 1866-87
Nathaniel, 1866-88
Olive L., 1866-87
REESE
T., 1870-77
REEVES
_____, 1868-113
REID
Dr., 1868-109
John, 1876-78, 81
John (Capt.), 1876-78, 80, 81
John G., 1876-78
John S., 1861-23; 1874-44
Sophia (Mrs. Daniel T. Baldwin), 1861-23
REMINGTON
Eliza (Mrs. Timothy Baker), 1864-122; 1878-98
REUMELLE
Augustus, 1878-26
REUSS
Herman, 1876-77; 1878-26
REUTLER
Frederick, 1876-83
REVERE
Paul, 1866-15
REYNOLDS
Amos, 1868-73, 84; 1876-34
Charles H., 1874-59
Daniel, Sept. 1860-24; 1862-23; 1863-4; 1876-27; 1878-110
Edward (M. D.), 1867-49
Elizabeth (Mrs. Daniel Reynolds), Sept. 1860-24
Henry (Dr.), 1876-4
I. T., Sept. 1860-27; 1862-6; 1863-4; 1870-8; 1876-13
I. T. (Mrs.), 1878-2
Isaac T., 1860-27; 1862-23; 1865-90; 1876-13, 27; 1878-110
J. T., 1878-3
Jane (Mrs. King), 1862-23
Job T., 1876-108
Polly, 1862-23
Rachel (Mrs. Hiram Judson), 1862-23
Warren, 1874-99
William, 1874-99; 1876-82
RHINEHART
J. W., 1876-84, 86
RHOADS
Zina, 1867-73
RHODE
Conrad, 1874-61, 75
RHODES
G. S., 1868-86
Joseph H., 1874-60
Zina, 1868-44
RICE
Capt., 1874-39
Major, 1865-74
Mr., 1864-89
Sgt., May 1859-41, 43; 1878-85
H. H. (Rev.), 1874-18, 85
Hiram, Mar. 1860-37
John, Mar. 1860-31
Richard, 1876-28
Thomas, 1874-38
William, Mar. 1860-31
RICH
Charles, 1876-35
John, Sept. 1860-23
RICHARD
_____, 1863-84
RICHARDIE
_____ (Father), 1863-22
RICHARDS
A. W., 1864-54
Alfred, 1878-31
Charles, 1878-31
John N., 1865-90
Joseph, Mar. 1860-14
Nathaniel, 1863-52; 1870-18
Patty Clarisa Poag (Mrs. A. W. Richards), 1864-54

RICHARDSON
C. B., 1862-95
Delia (Mrs. Hiram Boardman), 1874-93
Isaac, 1865-74
Susan (Mrs. Prince Haskell), Mar. 1859-40
Valorous, 1864-85
RICHESON
Susan (Mrs. Prince Haskell Jr.), 1864-114
RICHEY
Eliza Morris (Mrs. Welch Richey), Mar. 1860-23
Squire, 1858-46
Welch, Mar. 1860-23
William, Mar. 1860-23, 24; Sept. 1860-16
RICHIE
Mr., Nov. 1858-32
RICHMOND
Mr., Mar. 1860-1
D. C., 1878-4
Hannah, 1868-12
Hannah, (Mrs. Asa Smith), 1863-68; 1865-54, 57
RICK
B. (Mrs. John Cherry), 1864-42
Squire, June 1858-46
Rickford
H. J., 1876-85
RIDDLE
A. N., 1866-87, 93
Adam M., 1866-91
RIDGDALE
John, Mar. 1860-20
RIEDLING
Frederick, 1861-15
RIGDON
John (Elder), Nov. 1859-21; 1862-29
RIGGS
Capt., 1874-72, 73
Charles H. (Capt.), 1874-60
E. C., 1867-75
RIKER
Anda, 1876-10
RILEY
Capt., 1862-23; 1865-119
James, Mar. 1860-28
Thomas, 1876-87
RILY
Thomas, 1876-87
RIPLEY
Brig. Gen., 1870-55
Mr., 1863-60
David, 1864-110
Hannah Bradford (Mrs. Joshua Ripley), 1864-111
Hezekiah (Rev.), 1864-6, 110
John, 1864-110
Joshua, 1864-110, 111
William, 1864-110, 111
RITTER
Mr., Mar. 1859-22
RIXFORD
Edwin, Mar. 1860-40
Eleanor Cook (Mrs. Edwin Rixford), Mar. 1860-40
ROADARMEL
John, 1876-119
ROBBINS
Capt., 1874-70, 72
ROBBINS continued
Daniel, Mar. 1860-38
Freelove (Mrs.), 1865-6
L., 1867-27
Ladonicus, 1867-28
S. (Rev.), 1864-55
ROBERSON
William, 1874-47
ROBERTS
Mr., 1874-51
Abijah (Mrs.), 1874-103
B. F., 1876-70
Sylvia (Mrs. Israel Waggoner), 1866-59
ROBERTSON
Mr., 1867-110; 1868-17
Alexander, 1865-78
Anna, 1867-4
Anna Parker, 1865-6
P. G., 1874-31
Rhoda Howe (Mrs. William Robertson), Mar. 1860-24
William, Mar. 1860-24
ROBINS
Rev., Mar. 1859-33
ROBINSON
_____, 1870-72; 1878-84
Anna, 1864-8
Anna Parker (Mrs. Robinson), Mar. 1860-3; 1863-4
Elihu, 1864-5
Emeline, 1876-105
Emma Cemantha Cherry (Mrs. W. B. Robinson), 1864-42
G. P., 1863-71; 1876-63
George, 1878-61
Huriah, 1867-75
J. R., 1861-15
James, 1868-57, 58
Jane (Mrs. Wheeler), 1864-8
John, 1874-6
Laticia Coleman (Mrs. William Robinson), 1865-83
Martha (Mrs.), Mar. 1860-29
Napoleon, 1874-60
Reuben, 1876-105, 106
Rhoda, 1865-21
S., 1864-55
S. M., 1866-8
Stephen, 1876-105, 106
Thomas, 1867-75
Uriah, 1874-20, 30
W. B., 1864-42
Westley, Mar. 1860-33, 42
William, Mar. 1860-42; 1865-5, 12, 13, 20, 21, 83
William (Gen.), 1868-57, 58
William W. (Lt.), 1876-86
ROBSOHN
Mr., 1876-56
ROBY
R. S., 1865-5
ROCKWELL
_____ (Mrs. Simeon M. Crane), Nov. 1858-42
D. S., 1865-90
Joseph, Mar. 1860-29
Sarah, Mar. 1860-30

RODGERS
Mr., 1867-73
_____ Hartwell (Mrs. Stephen Rodgers), Sept. 1860-15
Hiram, 1866-9
Stephen, Sept. 1860-15
RODIN
Ruth, 1862-27
RODNEY
Mr., 1862-44
ROE
Anna (Mrs. Ezra D. Smith), 1864-52
Barnett, Nov. 1858-13, 17; Sept. 1860-44; 1878-111
Charles, 1874-59
ROGERS
Capt., 1870-100
Major, 1864-109; 1867-10, 12
Mr., 1868-43
Aaron, 1876-61
Edward, 1865-65, 66
Eliphalet, 1866-57
Elizabeth Taintor (Mrs. Noah Rogers), 1865-65
Elizabeth Wheeler (Mrs. Noah Rogers II), 1865-65
Henry, 1866-88
Hiram, 1866-2, 57
Isaac (Dr.), 1870-3, 34
Joel, Mar. 1860-30
John, 1865-65; 1866-2, 57
John, 1866-57
Joseph, Mar. 1860-20
Josiah, 1866-57
L. L., 1870-34
Lucy Tucker (Mrs. R. H. Rogers), 1865-22
Mary, 1870-8
Noah, 1866-57
Noah (I, II, III), 1865-65
Otis M., 1876-127
R. H., 1865-90
Richard H., 1864-7
Rhoda Leete (Mrs. Noah Rogers III), 1865-65, 66
Stephen, 1865-90
Thomas, Mar. 1860-20; 1865-65; 1866-57
William, 1866-95
ROHNER
Casper, 1876-82
ROLAND
Mr., Nov. 1858-14
ROOKS
Ezekiel, 1866-8, 95
ROOP
Amos, 1864-66
ROORBACK
Amy Sutherland (Mrs. Jacob Roorback), 1864-51
J., 1864-55
Jacob, 1864-51, 54, 57; 1876-34
Sarah (Mrs. A. W. Purdy), 1864-51
ROOT
_____ Tillotson (Mrs. Root), Mar. 1859-1
ROOT continued
Mr., 1867-78
Mrs., 1861-2
A., 1878-26
A. (Col.), Mar. 1859-21
Aaron (Capt.), 1863-85
Benjamin, 1863-73
Catherine C., 1874-57
Charles, 1863-85
Edward, 1863-85
Eliza (Mrs. Joseph Swift), Mar. 1860-25
Eliza Case (Mrs. William H. Rott), 1863-85
Emma, 1863-85
Harriet, 1863-85
Henry, 1863-85
Hester Buck (Mrs. Aaron Root), 1863-85
J. M. (Hon.), Sept. 1860-44; 1861-2; 1863-5; 1868-42; 1870-70; 1876-8, 9, 10, 36, 73; 1878-25
James, May 1859-39, 40, 41, 42
Jonah, Mar. 1860-22
Joseph M. (Hon.), 1863-21, 40; 1878-16, 63
Josiah, Nov. 1858-18; Mar. 1860-46
Julia, 1863-85
Maria, 1863-85
Mary (Mrs. Eli S. Barnum), 1864-91
Reuben, 1866-35
Rhoda (Mrs. Benjamin Stiles), 1861-25
Sarah, 1863-85
W., 1868-55
William, 1863-85
William H., 1863-85; 1867-79
RORZBACK
P., 1876-61
R., 1876-61
ROSBECK
Marks, Sept. 1860-40
ROSCH
Thomas, 1863-48
ROSCO
Levi, 1876-123
ROSE
Augustus, 1876-118
Betsey Edson (Mrs. Enos Rose), 1862-7
E., 1862-7
Elanson, 1876-118
Elanson Jr., 1876-118
Enos, Nov. 1859-45; 1862-7; 1863-4, 7; 1864-8, 26; 1865-90; 1867-86, 87
George W., 1876-118
Hiram, 1876-118
N., Mar. 1860-28
Robert, 1878-34
ROSENBAUM
Capt., 1874-70, 72, 74
Oswald H., 1874-60
ROSITER
F. Z. (Rev.), 1863-71
ROSS
A. M., 1866-88
Diana (Mrs.), 1866-87
E., 1866-88
Elizabeth (Mrs.), 1870-79
George (Col.), 1870-79

ROSS continued
J. S., 1866-86
Sylvester, 1861-13; 1878-26
Zephania, 1865-2
ROSSITER
Emery, 1876-35
ROSSMAN
Bartholomew, Mar. 1860-36
John Jr., Mar. 1860-37
John Senior, Mar. 1860-37
ROUNDS
Lewis, 1876-82
ROUSE
Lewis S., 1876-82
ROWCLIFF
James, 1866-95
ROWLAND
Mr., 1876-97
Aaron, June 1858-45; Nov. 1858-22; May 1859-24; 1868-13, 52, 99
Betsey, 1863-6
Deborah Dean (Mrs. Aaron Rowland), 1868-99
Eber, Mar. 1860-28
James, 1870-113
Levi, Mar. 1860-28
Nancy (Mrs. Ezra Wood), 1865-58
ROWLEY
Mrs., 1870-11
ROWSE
Zalmon Esquire, 1865-101
ROYCE
_____, 1878-93
ROYER
Lewis B., 1876-84
RUARK
Rev., 1866-24
Bigelow, 1863-19
RUE
Richard, 1870-55, 56, 57, 58, 59
RUEMMELE
Augustus, 1861-15
RUESS
Herman. 1861-15
RUFFIN
William, 1870-108
RUGGLES
_____ Merry (Mrs. Eli Ruggles), 1867-90
Mr., 1861-6; 1863-70; 1865-7; 1866-7
A. (Mrs.), 1864-8
A., 1861-2
Abram, 1870-86
Alfred, 1863-68, 83; 1865-57; 1866-7
Alice, 1863-85
Almon (Hon.), June 1858-21, 22, 43, 44; Nov. 1858-27, 39; Mar. 1859-26, 30, 37, 39; May 1859-17, 47; Nov. 1859-16, 19, 20, 31; Mar. 1860;3, 23; Sept. 1860-5, 6, 35, 39, 41; 1861-21, 26; 1862-2, 15, 40; 1863-66, 72, 73, 83, 84, 85; 1864-30, 31, 48, 94, 95, 96; 1865-28; 1866-74; 1867-67, 75; 1870-18, 54, 55, 87; 1874-103; 1876-22; 1878-13, 14, 15, 16
Almon R., 1863-86
RUGGLES continued
Alom, 1876-22
Annis Dibble (Mrs. Almon Ruggles), 1863-83
Ashbel, 1863-83, 86
Benjamin (Hon.), 1866-103
Betsy (Mrs. Xenophon Phillips), 1863-85; 1874-103
Charles, 1863-85, 86
D. W., 1870-34
Daniel, 1867-73
David, 1864-102
Eleanor Post (Mrs. Richard Ruggles), 1863-86
Eli (Mrs.), 1867-90
Eli H., 1865-90
Elisha, 1864-3
Frances, 1863-86
G. W., 1862-6; 1865-6
Joseph, June 1858-36, 37, 39
Julia, 1865-90
Julia Mallory (Mrs. Charles Ruggles), 1863-85
Lillian, 1863-86
Mary, 1863-85
Mary Douglass (Mrs. Charles Ruggles), 1863-86
Rebecca (Mrs. Lyman Case), 1863-83, 85
Rhoda Burk (Mrs. Almon Ruggles), Mar. 1860-23; 1863-85
Richard, 1863-85, 86; 1876-22
Robert, 1863-85
Samuel, 1863-3
Samuel B., 1874-47
Tamar, 1863-70; 1876-22; 1878-16
Tamar (Mrs. Jared Ward), 1863-66
Tamen (Tamar) (Mrs. Jabez Wright), June 1858-44; 1863-70; 1876-22
RULE
Mr., 1874-101
Deborah, 1868-86
James H., 1861-13, 14; 1868-86
John Henry, 1868-86, 100
Nathan, 1864-57
RULISSON
Abram F., Mar. 1860-37
Margaret Ann (Mrs. Perry Pixley), Mar. 1860-45
RULSON
Mrs., 1874-7
RUMERY
Josiah, 1865-49
RUMSEY
Adeline, 1870-34; 1876-4
David, 1868-86
George, 1874-112
H. W., Mar. 1860-27
Hiram, 1868-41
RUNDLE
Abijah, Mar. 1859-41; 1862-9
Betsey, 1874-36, 93
Betsey Parker (Mrs. Abijah Rundle), 1862-9
Sally (Mrs. Nathan Tanner), 1862-9
RUNNELS
Mr., 1870-30

RUNNELS continued
William (Rev.), Mar. 1859-24
RUNYAN
E. D., 1876-35
M. B., 1876-36
W. H., 1876-36
RUNYON
Nathaniel (Mrs.), 1876-124
RUPP
Nicholas, 1878-112, 113
RUSCO
_____,(Mrs. Daniel Kniffin), 1864-74
_____, (Mrs. Varney Pearce), 1864-70
_____ Sheldon (Mrs. John Rusco), 1864-73
B., 1864-71
Benjamin, 1864-71, 72, 73
J., 1864-70
Jeremiah, 1864-71, 72
John, 1864-73
Josiah, 1864-74, 77
RUSH
Dr., 1867-116
Mr., 1864-36, 37
Jacob, Nov. 1858-14, 15; Mar. 1859-34; 1862-81
Levi, 1874-15
RUSHTON
Benjamin G., 1876-84, 86
Henry C., 1874-59
RUSS
_____, 1863-61
Harriet Edwards (Mrs. Russ), 1863-61
J. W., Sept. 1860-6
RUSSEL-RUSSELL
Mr., 1866-116; 1868-15
Mrs., 1863-54, 55; 1874-105
Alcott, 1863-54, 55; 1874-105; 1876-4
Angeline (Mrs. Isaac Russell), Mar. 1860-29
Arvilla (Mrs.), 1878-2
Bethiah E. (Mrs. F. B. Case), 1874-105
Cenith (Mrs. Jared Ward), Mar. 1860-24
Charles, 1863-54; 1874-105
Daniel P., Sept. 1860-21
Eliram, 1862-13
Ezekiel, 1866-116
George, 1865-90
Herbert H., 1876-82
Hiram, Mar. 1860-21; 1865-56, 57, 58; 1866-69
Hiram (Capt.), June 1858-44; Nov. 1858-35; 1862-81, 82
Hiram (Major), 1863-67, 70; 1876-23
Isaac, Mar. 1860-29
Joseph L., 1866-35
Mary L., (Mrs. Charles H. Botsford), 1874-105
Norton, 1868-9, 11, 86
R. B., May 1859-11
Rufus B., 1866-35
Stephen, Nov. 1859-11, 12; 1863-71; 1865-11; 1866-35; 1868-13
Sybil, 1868-86
William (Rev.), Nov. 1859-40
William S., 1868-86
RUST
E. T. (Sgt.), 1862-3
RUST continued
Elijah T., 1876-81
Henry G., 1876-82
R. T., 1862-3; 1864-2, 9; 1865-1, 90; 1866-1, 2; 1867-1; 1868-13
Reuben T., 1865-1, 90
RUTHERFORD
Louis, 1874-59, 74
RYAN
E. G. (Hon.), 1865-113
James W., 1876-84
RYDER
Enoch, 1874-57
RYERSON
Joseph, 1865-110

SACKET-SACKETT
Abigail Gates (Mrs. Erasmus M. Sackett), 1864-53
Betsey, 1864-55
Charles, 1864-53
Dimmes M. (Mrs. Nelson Smith), 1864-53
E. H., 1870-34
E. T., 1876-34
Ebenezer S., 1876-86
Eleasor, 1876-34
Eleazer, 1864-49
Elmer, 1864-53
Erasmus M., 1864-53
Erastus T., 1864-53
H., June 1858-30; 1864-55
Harmon, 1864-53
Harvey, June 1858-30; Nov. 1858-1; 1864-53, 54, 55, 56; 1870-10, 11,25; 1874-2, 20; 1876-4, 6, 34; 1878-111
Henry, 1870-22
Irena, 1864-53
Justus, 1864-53
Lambert A., 1874-60
Lorinda (Mrs. Daniel Beach), 1864-49
Lucretia Lyons (Mrs. Erastus T. Sackett), 1864-53
Mary, 1876-4
Mary Van Vranken (Mrs. Harvey Sackett), 1864-53
Myron, 1864-53
Thalia Eldred (Mrs. Harvey Sackett), 1864-53, 55
William, 1864-53
SADLER-SADDLER
E. B., 1878-25
E. B., 1878-63
SAFFORD
Lieut. Col., 1863-3
Rev. Mr., 1866-8
George H. (Col.), 1862-7
John, 1866-95
John (Rev.), 1866-7
SAGE
H. P. (Rev.), 1870-10, 12; 1876-62
William G., 1876-23
St. Aubin
_____, 1867-10
St. Clair
Gov., 1870-62

ST. CLAIR continued
Arthur (Gen.), 1866-119; 1868-22; 1870-108; 1876-31
ST. JOHN
_____, 1870-72
Rev., Mar. 1860-29
Esther, 1864-57
Francis, Mar. 1860-29
Hooker, 1864-57
Nehemiah, 1864-57
Stephen, 1864-57
Steven (Col.), Sept. 1860-23
W. W., 1867-28
William, 1864-57
SALISBURY
F., 1870-34
Frank, 1870-11
J. H., 1870-50
Newell B., 1874-60, 75
R. O., 1864-73
Robert, 1864-77
Robert O., 1864-74
SALLABANK
Joseph, 1874-59
SALMON
E. P. (Rev.), Mar. 1860-2; 1864-45; 1876-70
SALSBURY
John, 1874-60
SALTONSTALL
Gordon, Mar. 1860-32
Richard (Sir), 1867-14
Roswell, Mar. 1860-32
Winthrop, Mar. 1860-32
SAMMIS
White Esquire, Mar. 1860-5
SAMPLE
Widow, Nov. 1858-15, 16; Nov. 1859-47; 1864-36, 37
Anna, 1864-37
Betsey, 1864-36
David, 1864-37
James, 1864-36
John, 1864-36
Martha (Mrs. Amos Harkness), Nov. 1858-16; 1864-36, 37, 39
Nancy, 1864-37
Samuel, 1864-37
William, 1864-37
SAMPSON
_____ Townsend (Mrs. John Sampson), 1870-22
Deacon, 1863-55
Ezekiel, 1863-55; 1870-20, 22, 23, 25; 1874-11
George W. (Dr.), 1864-75
Isaac (Deacon), 1863-59; 1864-52, 56; 1870-20, 22, 23; 1876-35
John, 1864-52; 1870-22
Julia, 1870-22
Lewis, 1870-22
Marium (Mrs. Gamaliel Townsend), 1870-22
Patty Hendryx (Mrs. Isaac Sampson), 1870-22
Polly, 1870-22; 1874-11, 93
Polly Merrifield (Mrs. Ezekiel Sampson), 1870-22, 23
SAMPSON continued
Roxey (Mrs. Archibald Bates), 1870-22, 25
Sally (Mrs. Enos Smith), 1863-55; 1870-22
Washington, 1870-22
SANBURN
Sally Allen (Mrs. Sanburn), Mar. 1860-24
SANDERS ALSO SEE SAUNDERS
SANDERS
_____ (Mrs. A. Jackson Poag), 1864-54
_____ Lockwood (Mrs. Stephen Sanders), 1867-90
Mr., Mar. 1859-32; 1862-16
Mrs., June 1858-38; 1874-17
Cyrus, 1864-54, 55
E., 1862-5
E. L, 1865-91
Emma Harris (Mrs. Sanders), 1862-16
G., 1867-4
Jesse, Nov.1858-43
John, June 1858-41; 1863-4; 1865-92
John (Dr.), 1876-123
L. W., 1874-17
M. S., June 1858-40
Moses C. (Dr.), June 1858-38, 39, 40, 42, 43; Nov. 1858-41; Mar. 1859-41; Nov. 1859-37; Sept. 1860-45; 1862-45, 89; 1864-37, 46, 47, 75; 1865-2, 53, 80; 1874-88; 1876-110
Pearley Clary Douglass (Mrs.), June 1858-30, 42, 43; Nov. 1858-2; 1863-4
Samuel, Nov., 1858-41, 43
Stephen, 1867-90
W., Mar. 1860-11
SANDERSON
Mr., Sept. 1860-42
James M., 1865-91
SANDFORD
William, 1868-71
SANFORD
Mr., Mar. 1860-22; 1864-23; 1866-52, 54
Artemesia (Mrs. Eli Winton), Nov. 1858-43
Asa, Mar. 1860-14, 23; 1864-84; 1876-46
C. G., 1868-86; 1874-111
E. H., 1861-15
Giles, 1866-52, 55, 57
William (Rev.), Sept. 1860-6
SANTY
Lt., 1876-79
SARGEANT
Winthrop, 1862-51; 1868-23
SAUNDERS ALSO SEE SANDERS
Mr., 1870-68, 74
Esther Lockwood, 1866-81
Jabez, 1864-57
James, 1878-3
L. G. (Mrs.), 1876-123
Stephen (Rev.), 1861-46
Wilber F., 1876-16
SAVAGE
E., 1864-103
Eliza W. Hester (Mrs. E. Savage), 1864-103
Levi, Mar. 1860-24; 1876-105
Polly Haynes (Mrs. Levi Savage), Mar. 1860-24
SAVERACK
Edward, 1874-61
John R., 1874-61

SAVERS
Charles, 1870-51
SAWYER
Franklin, 1862-5, 7; 1863-5; 1865-90; 1867-4; 1874-116; 1876-9, 10, 77, 78, 79, 80, 81
George (Mrs.), 1874-28
Stephen, 1874-11, 93
SAXBY
J., 1867-28
SAXTON
_____, 1867-78
Peter, 1876-35
SAYLES
Eliza (Mrs. E. O. Merry), 1878-108
Laura, Sept. 1860-6; 1868-70
Lemuel, 1878-108
SAYRE
David, Mar. 1860-11
SCAMMON
J. Young, 1865-104
SCARFF
J. M. (Rev.), 1864-6
SCHAEFFER
Michael, Mar. 1860-12
SCHARDT
Adam, 1863-37, 46
SCHEMPS
Frederick, 1876-84
SCHENK
Noah H. (Rev.), 1876-52
SCHINDLER
Father, 1870-90
SCHNEBLY
Bower W., 1874-59, 74
SCHOOLCRAFT
Mr., 1867-10, 11
SCHUSTER
George, 1876-84
SCHUYLER
_____, 1876-105
Lt., 1874-72
N. P., 1864-9; 1870-7
Philip N., June 1858-1, 29, 30; Nov. 1858-3; Sept. 1860-1; 1863-2; 1864-2; 1865-1, 2, 91; 1866-1, 2, 3, 7; 1867-1, 2; 1868-2, 4; 1870-2, 7, 8, 9, 50; 1874-2, 3, 12, 19, 20, 27, 30, 31, 34, 35, 37; 1876-1, 2, 3, 8, 10, 11, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17; 1878-1, 2, 3, 5, 6, 65
SCOBY
George A., 1874-60
SCOFIELD
Elnathan (Judge), 1870-95
SCONTON
William, 1865-6
SCOTT
General, June 1858-32; 1870-55
E. (Rev.), Mar. 1860-27
Ellen, Mar. 1860-27
George A., 1876-82
J. A., 1865-64
James (Rev.), 1870-4
Jessup W., 1861-12
L. (Deacon), 1868-72
Lyman, 1868-70; 1878-2, 111, 112
SCOTT continued
Martin B., 1870-50
Philo B., 1864-43
Thomas, 1864-105
Winfield, 1865-109
SCOUTON
William, 1870-34
SCRIBNER
Mr., 1860-22; 1864-114
Elizabeth (Mrs.), 1863-53
Elizabeth (Mrs. Francis Keyes), 1863-55; 1870-24
Henry, 1863-73
SCRIPPS
John C., 1865-105, 112, 113
SCUDDER
Isaac, 1864-57
SEARL-SEARLE-SEARLES
E. G., 1865-92
Roger (Rev.), May 1859-21; 1874-91; 1876-46, 47
SEARS
F. (Judge), June 1858-29; Nov. 1858-2; 1862-8; 1863-9; 1864-9; 1868-13; 1870-7, 8, 12, 50; 1874-1, 3, 10, 12; 1876-7
Frederick, 1862-10; 1865-92; 1874-8, 19, 20; 1876-72, 74
Joseph, Nov. 1859-19
SEBOO
Mr., May 1859-24
SEDAN
Cornelius R., 1870-108
SEED
Esther W., 1865-92
SEELY
Mr., 1861-3
Thomas S., 1874-60
SEFTRIGE
Gen., Nov. 1859-35
SEGAR-SEGER-SEGUR
A. R., 1865-91
A. W., 1865-91
Alfred (Dr.), 1876-123
Alfred R., 1876-73, 74
Eli, June 1858-23, 45; Nov. 1858-22, 23; May 1859-23, 24; 1867-88
Ephriam, June 1858-45; Nov. 1858-23; May 1859-24
Jane (Mrs. Eli Seger), Nov. 1858-23
SEIBERT
Col., 1876-84
SEIFERT
Peter, 1862-11
SELKIRK
Lord, 1867-21
SELOVER
Isaac M., 1865-91
SEIP
Rev., 1876-25
SENDER
Isaac, Sept. 1860-23
SENSEMAN
_____, 1862-66, 70
SERVICE
Aaron, 1863-61
Adam, 1863-61

SEVERANCE
Fannie B., 1874-110
Louis H., 1874-110
Ralph A., 1866-95
SEWALL
Mr., 1870-110
SEWARD
J., 1868-71
John (Rev.), Nov. 1859-12, 33, 34, 43; Sept. 1860-6, 21; 1864-4, 5, 103, 105, 110; 1865-70, 71; 1867-28; 1878-28
William (Rev.), 1865-66
SEXTON
Deborah (Mrs. Gilbert Sexton), Sept. 1860-5; 1868-70
George, 1865-63
Gilbert, Sept. 1860-5; 1868-70
Lydia (Mrs. H. C. Emmons), 1865-63
Miron, 1863-65, 66; 1865-90
P., June 1858-45
Platt, 1865-91
Samuel (Dr.), 1876-77
Thomas, 1868-70
William, June 1858-45
SEYMORE-SEYMOUR
Mr., Mar. 1860-44
George, Sept.1861-4; 1866-34; 1876-14
Hart, 1866-9, 95
Henry, 1870-77
Horatio, 1870-77
John, Nov. 1859-12; 1861-4, 5; 1864-1; 1865-91; 1866-7, 34; 1868-81, 114; 1874-27
John (Deacon), 1866-100; 1867-41
John (Elder), Nov. 1859-12; 1867-27
John (Mrs.), 1866-36
John (Rev.), 1866-28
Joseph, 1864-5
Lathrop, Nov. 1859-3
Moses, 1870-77
Origen S., 1870-77
R. George, 1866-34
Samuel, Nov. 1858-5, 29, 30, 34, 36; Mar. 1859-26, 27; May 1859-26; Nov. 1859-4; 1862-41; 1864-84, 98; 1868-39; 1870-77; 1876-92; 1878-17
Silas D., (Rev.), 1876-4
Thomas Y., 1862-35
William, 1864-57
SHACKER
Alfred, 1874-43
SHACKLEFORD
Johannah (Mrs. Erastus Ferris), 1864-52
SHADDRICK
Mrs., 1866-5
SHADLE
Jacob, 1876-84
William H., 1876-84, 86
SHAEFFER
Edward, 1870-53
SHAFER
Christopher, 1863-81
David, 1863-79
Frank, 1876-82
Hannah Sherarts (Mrs. David Shafer), 1863-79
SHAFER continued
Katherine Sherarts (Mrs. Christopher Shafer), 1863-81
Lambert, Nov. 1859-16
SHAFFER
C., 1861-2
SHANGLER
Elizabeth (Mrs. Isaac Trimmer), 1876-110
SHANNON
Major, 1878-84
Wilson, 1864-106
SHARART
John, 1876-111
SHARINGTON
James, Mar. 1860-30
SHARP
John V., 1878-112
SHAW
_____ Metcalf (Mrs. James), 1865-67
A. B., 1866-87
George, Mar. 1860-24
H. W. (Mrs.), 1874-22
Harriet Cochrane (Mrs. George Shaw), Mar. 1860-24
James (Rev.), 1865-67
Nathaniel, 1878-10
Otis Jr., 1876-78
Thomas, 1878-10
William H., 1874-60
SHAWHAN
Capt., 1874-67, 68
SHEARMAN
Dyer, 1866-69
SHEELEY
Joseph, 1863-47
SHEELEY
Margaret, 1874-36
SHEETS
Joseph, 1866-55
SHEFFIELD
_____ Baker (Mrs. George Sheffield), Nov. 1859-9
_____ Woodward (Mrs. George Sheffield), Nov. 1859-9
George, Nov. 1859-9, 11, 12; 1864-34, 35; 1867-112; 1868-80, 81; 1878-57
J. R., Nov. 1859-11
Jeremiah, Nov. 1859-9
SHEILDS
Samuel, 1876-26
SHELDON
_____ (Mrs. John Rusco), 1864-73
Mr., Sept. 1861-48; 1865-71; 1867-12, 78
Mrs., 1876-96
Corydon, 1876-96
Daniel, 1870-77
Daniel Jr., 1870-77
Elisha, 1868-58
Eunice, 1876-96
Henry Olcott (Rev.), Mar. 1860-26; 1865-15; 1874-15, 19, 30; 1876-8, 106, 107, 108, 109, 110; 1878-1, 127
Jairus C., 1876-96
Rufus, 1864-73; 1868-6, 86; 1870-11; 1876-123
W., 1864-71

SHELDON continued
Warren, Nov. 1858-40
SHELHOUSE
Rosetta (Mrs. John Clapp), Mar. 1860-24
SHELLABARGER
Samuel (Hon.), 1870-94
SHELTON
Gearshon, Mar. 1860-28; 1868-58, 35
Jeanette (Mrs. Joseph French), 1878-103
SHEPARD
Deacon, 1870-41
John, 1876-84
Mindwell, (Mrs. Gideon Waugh), 1870-41
SHEPHARD
_____, 1863-81
Amelia (Mrs. Francis Graham), 1866-56
Lyman, 1874-60
Mehetabel Keeler (Mrs. Shephard), 1863-81
Phineas, 1866-56
SHEPPARD
Lucy (Mrs. Josiah Pelton), 1876-111
SHERARTS-SHERRATS
Abagail Gordon (Mrs. John Sherarts), 1863-81
Angeline (Mrs. David Hammond), 1863-81
Barbara Sherarts (Mrs. Simon Sherarts), 1863-79
Betsey (Mrs. John T. Ashenhurst), 1863-81
Betsey (Mrs. Jonathan Brooks), 1863-79, 82
Betsey Compton (Mrs. David Sherarts), 1863-81
Calista, 1863-79
Caroline (Mrs. Charles Crandall), 1863-81
Catherine (Mrs. Bud Martin), Nov. 1858-39
Christina (Mrs. Jacob Compton), 1863-79
David, 1863-81
Elizabeth Bomhart (Mrs. Jacob Sherarts), 1863-79
Franklin, 1863-79
George, Nov. 1858-39; 1863-73, 79, 82
George Jr., 1863-79, 80
Hannah (Mrs. David Shafer), 1863-79
Jacob, Nov. 1858-39; 1863-79, 86; 1866-95; 1874-29
James, 1863-79
Jane, 1863-79
Jane (Mrs. Asa Fisk), 1863-81
John, Nov. 1858-39; 1863-79, 81
Katharine (Mrs. Budd Martin), 1863-79
Katherine (Mrs. Christopher Shafer), 1863-81
Katherine Sherarts (Mrs. Jacob Sherarts), 1863-79
Margaret (Mrs. George Sherarts), 1863-79
Mary (Mrs. Herrick Parker), 1863-81
Mary Cuddeback (Mrs. George Sherarts Jr.), 1863-79, 80
Polly (Mrs. Sylvester Cuddeback), 1863-79
Rachel (Mrs. Nathan Cuddeback), 1863-79, 80
Rebecca (Mrs. George Butterfield), 1863-79
Roxana, 1863-79
Sarah, 1863-79
Sidney, 1863-79
Simon, 1863-79
SHERARTS continued
Sophia (Mrs. William B. Andrews), 1863-79
Susan Sherarts (Mrs. John Sherarts), 1863-79
SHERBORTS
Jacob, 1874-93
SHERED
George, 1865-56
SHERER
Peter, 1874-61
SHERIDAN
Phil (Gen.), 1868-114; 1874-66, 68, 69
SHERLEY-ALSO SEE SHIRLEY
SHERLEY
_____ (Mrs. Atwood), 1870-68
_____ Ramsdell (Mrs. Abiathar Sherley), 1870-68
Abiather, Mar. 1860-21; 1870-68, 74
SHERMAN
_____ Redding (Mrs. Justin Sherman), 1868-32
General, 1874-73, 83
Judge, 1874-83
Mr., Sept. 1860-43; 1864-115
Mrs., Mar. 1860-30
Secretary, 1878-112
Senator, 1865-118
A. S., 1865-110
Abby Guthrie (Mrs. Daniel Sherman), Mar. 1859-28; 1864-84
Almira (Mrs. J. Nelson), 1865-80
Betsey, Nov. 1859-41
Betsey (Mrs. Justin Sherman), Mar. 1860-31
C. R., 1870-54
Charles, 1864-87
Charles R., June 1858-25; Mar. 1859-26; May 1859-27; 1864-84
Charles S., Mar. 1860-28
Charles T., 1870-50
D., 1864-85
Daniel, Mar. 1859-28; May 1859-26; 1864-28, 34, 67, 84, 85, 86, 87, 88, 89, 90, 98; 1865-4, 25; 1866-35; 1878-1, 57, 78
E. (Mrs.), 1865-91
Edward, 1865-91
Elizabeth, 1865-91
Eunice (Mrs. Samuel Bristol), 1868-97
George B., 1868-8, 86; 1876-2
George E., 1864-85
J., June 1858-30; 1868-58
J. C., 1868-6
J. G., Mar. 1860-29, 31; 1868-58
Jennet, Mar. 1860-27
John (Hon.), Nov. 1858-2, 4, 5; May 1859-27; Mar. 1860-27; Sept. 1860-43; 1862-87; 1864-84; 1866-68; 1868-32
John G., 1863-4; 1876-1, 3
Julia, Mar. 1860-31
Justin, June 1858-30; Nov. 1858-1; Nov. 1859-38, 39, 41, 42; Mar. 1860-26, 31; 1863-6; 1865-91; 1867-3; 1868-32, 33, 34, 58; 1874-5
Laura, 1874-31

SHERMAN continued
Laura Hubbell (Mrs. Daniel Sherman), Mar. 1859-28; 1864-85
Lemuel, 1864-62; 1865-91
Lewis, 1868-32, 41
Lewis J., Mar. 1860-27; 1868-32
N. G., 1865-91; 1876-51
Neverson, 1874-20, 93
P., 1868-58
Peter, Nov. 1859-41; Mar. 1860-27; 1863-6; 1865-92; 1868-37; 1874-86; 1878-112
Phebe, 1868-58
Philo, Nov. 1859-39, 41; 1868-33, 34, 58; 1874-85
Polly, 1876-127
Ruth (Mrs. Henry Parker), Mar. 1860-23
Sally, Nov. 1859-40
Samuel, Mar. 1860-8, 28; 1863-4
Sarah, 1865-3
Seneca (Mrs. Justin Sherman), Mar. 1860-26
Taylor (Judge), June 1858-21, 22; Mar. 1859-25; 1864-83, 84, 85, 96; 1878-13, 14
W. T., (Gen.), 1865-110
William S., 1864-85
SHERRARD
Robert A., 1870-61
SHERRATS SEE SHERARTS
SHERRICK
_____ (Mrs. Perry Keyes), 1870-24
_____ (Mrs. Harrison Keyes), 1870-24
John C., 1862-29
SHERWOOD
Mr., Nov. 1859-13, 14; 1868-83; 1876-33
A. (Col.), 1870-51
Albert, 1863-83
Asa, Nov. 1859-8
Caroline Brooks (Mrs. Sherwood), 1863-83
D., 1865-27
H. T., 1867-8
Lucy Brooks (Mrs. Albert Sherwood), 1863-83
Seth Newcomb, 1868-63
SHESLEY
George, 1874-61, 75
SHETHALL
S., 1870-77
SHIELDS
Miss, Mar. 1860-31
Samuel, 1876-86
SHIPMAN
C. L. (Rev.), 1876-62
T. S. (Rev.), 1868-71
Thomas L. Sept. 1860-6
SHIPPEL
Fred., 1863-48
SHIPY-SHIPPY
Family, 1868-43
Mr., Sept. 1860-16
Nathan, 1864-88
SHIRLEY-ALSO SEE SHERLEY
_____, 1876-108
Family, 1865-74
Abaither, Mar. 1860-22; 1863-90, 91, 92; 1865-44, 49; 1868-81; 1870-68; 1876-27, 28
SHOEMAKER
Mr., 1870-96
SHOLES
Capt. Stanton, 1865-115
SHOOK
Peter, 1864-67
SHORT
Peyton, 1870-108
SHOTON
Elanor (Mrs. William Donkin), 1862-90
SHOURD
Daniel, 1865-92
SHOURDS
Mehitable, 1874-118
SHRIVEL
George, Mar. 1859-16
SHROCK
Jacob M., 1870-51
SHULZE
Gov., 1867-41
SHUMAKER
Peter, 1876-83
SHUPE
Jacob, 1874-44
SHUT
John C., 1864-117
SIBLEY
Solomon, 1870-63
SIDWAY
Capt., 1866-55
SIEGEL
General, 1874-63, 64
SIFLER
John, 1874-60
SIGOURNEY
Mrs., 1865-101
SILCOX
Amos H., 1865-92
Jonathan, 1865-91
SILLAMAN
Mrs., 1864-89
SILLEMAN
Mrs., 1864-89
SILLIMAN
Professor, Sept. 1860-9
Wyllis, 1870-63
SILVA
B., 1876-56
Mary, 1868-44
Sanford, 1868-43
SIMKINS
Sely, 1870-54
SIMKINSON
J. (Rev.), 1865-96
SIMMONS
Ann Ide, 1865-91; 1878-2, 112
Aura K., 1865-92
Charles B. (Hon.), June 1858-30, 31; Nov. 1858-2, 13; Mar. 1860-19, 48; 1862-4; 1863-7, 9; 1864-1; 1865-91; 1867-3; 1874-2, 12, 37, 88; 1876-10,75
Eliphalet B., Nov. 1858-17; 1874-86, 88
Fredus, 1865-92
Fredus (Mrs.), 1874-110

SIMMONS continued
Harlon E., Nov. 1858-14; 1865-91; 1867-4; 1874-86, 88, 89; 1876-4, 115; 1878-112
SIMONS
May 1859-43
T., Mar. 1860-30
Wells, Mar. 1860-30
SIMPSON
_____, 1870-24
Charles, 1876-83
Charles H., 1866-87
George, Mar. 1859-15
Jacob, Nov. 1858-4, 35, 37; 1861-21; 1865-91
John, Mar. 1860-28
Silas, 1874-60, 75
SINGLEFELTON
William, 1864-64
SINGLETARY
John E., 1865-70
SISSON
Lt., 1870-112
SKAATS
George, 1876-122
SKELLENGER
Dr., 1876-8
Mr., 1870-11; 1876-4
A. D. (Dr.), 1862-6; 1863-7, 52; 1864-4, 5, 7, 112; 1865-92; 1870-9, 10, 16, 48; 1874-2, 8,10, 12, 15, 20, 23, 37; 1876-4, 6, 10, 16, 30; 1878-1, 2, 99, 110
Sarah E., 1868-86
SKILLMAN
Martin L., 1874-60
SKINNER
Mr., Nov. 1858-26; Nov. 1859-3; 1862-26
Alfred, Mar. 1859-10, 15
Benjamin F., 1874-59
Charles, 1864-64
Harriet (Mrs. Mevit Clark), Mar. 1859-15
Harriet Beymer (Mrs. James Skinner), Mar. 1859-10; Mar. 1860-24
Harrison, Mar. 1859-10, 15
James, Mar. 1859-10; Mar. 1860-24
James D., 1874-60
John, Mar. 1859-10, 14, 15
Joseph, Mar. 1859-10, 15
Reuben, Mar. 1859-9, 10, 14, 15; Nov. 1859-46
Richard, 1870-77
Roger, 1870-77
Ruth (Mrs. St. Clair Beymer), Mar. 1859-15
Timothy, 1870-77
SLATE
Valentine, Mar. 1860-21
SLATER
George W., 1874-59
John, 1874-59
Milton, 1874-110
Rice, Mar. 1860-37
W. R. (Mrs.), 1876-15
William, 1874-59, 74
SLAYMAN
Lucinda (Mrs.) 1870-11
SLOAN-SLOANE
Alexander A., 1876-84, 86
Cynthia Strong (Mrs. John N. Sloan), Nov. 1859-10; Mar. 1860-25
Frank G., 1870-34
J. M., 1878-25
J. N., 1878-25
John, 1874-49
John N., Mar. 1859-10, 21, 24; Nov. 1859-10; Mar. 1860-25; 1865-91; 1878-26
Rush R., 1870-34
Sallie M., 1870-34
Thomas M., 1870-34
W. B., 1874-53
SLOCUM
Isaac, 1866-35
Jonathan, June 1858-24
Oliver W., June 1858-39; 1867-115
Percy Felton (Mrs. Oliver W. Slocum), 1867-115
Jacob, 1866-87
SLY
Mr., Sept. 1860-46
Fernando, 1874-60
Samuel, Mar. 1860-11
SMALLEY
Rev., 1863-71
SMEED
Alonzo, 1876-61
SMEESON
James, 1876-83
SMITH
Capt., 1874-47
Dr., Mar. 1860-2
General, Nov. 1859-43
Lt., 1874-72
Miss (Mrs. Barnum), 1870-20
Miss (Mrs. George Bissel), 1870-20
Miss (Mrs. Esquire Blackman), 1870-20
Miss (Mrs. Alvin Coe), Nov. 1859-43
Miss (Mrs. Silas Dewey), 1866-75
Miss (Mrs. B. G. Fanning), 1870-20
Miss (Mrs. Fenn), 1866-75
Miss (Mrs. A. Fox), 1870-20
Miss (Mrs. Frederick Parott), 1864-39
Miss (Mrs. Horatio Perry), 1863-82
Miss (Mrs. Philo Wells), Nov.1858-42
_____ Hartwell (Mrs. Isaac Smith), Sept. 1860-15
_____ Kline (Mrs. John Smith), 1867-90
Mr., Mar. 1859-27, 28; Sept. 1860-22; 1863-22, 23; 1867-68, 92; 1868-17, 18, 19; 1876-11; 1878-28
Mrs., 1867-4
Rev. Mr., Sept. 1861-4, 5; 1863-7; 1865-62, 63; 1866-24; 1868-11
A. E., 1876-126
A. G. (Mrs.), 1865-91
A. L., 1864-3
Aaron, 1864-39
Abigail Higley (Mrs. Samuel Smith), 1867-40
Amanda, Nov. 1858-41
Ambrose, 1864-47; 1874-105
Amy G., 1876-123
Ann (Mrs.), 1874-102
Anna, 1874-111
Anna Roe (Mrs. Ezra D. Smith), 1864-52

SMITH continued
Anne Whiteman (Mrs. Truman M. Smith), 1862-20
Asa, 1863-68, 70, 71; 1865-54, 57; 1866-52, 67, 74, 75; 1876-23
Asa (Mrs.), , 1876-23
Augustine L, 1874-59
Austin, 1863-53; 1870-19, 20
Azubah, 1867-40
B. P., 1866-7
Benjamin, 1862-20
Benjamin P., June 1865-91; 1870-3; 1874-21, 93
Benjamin P. Jr., 1865-91; 1874-21
Betsy (Mrs. Z. Barrett), 1870-19, 20; 1878-99
Betsy Austin (Mrs. Job C. Smith), Mar. 1860-23; 1863-78
C., 1868-81
C. (Rev.), June 1858-30
Caleb, 1874-44
Calvin, Sept. 1860-24
Caroline,1865-92
Catharine Louber (Mrs. Walter E. Smith), 1864-52
Charles, Nov. 1859-7, 10; 1862-47; 1864-102; 1865-91
Charles (Dr.), Nov. 1859-7, 10; 1861-4, 6; 1862-1, 47
Charles (Rev.), June 1858-30; Nov. 1858-2
Chester, 1865-5, 6, 92
Clara R., 1863-68
Cotton Mather (Rev.), 1866-117
Cynthia, 1864-55
Cynthia Amelia, 1864-52
Cynthia Bates (Mrs. Ezra D. Smith), 1864-52
Cynthia L, 1867-4
D. H. 1866-95
D. W., 1865-91
Daniel , June 1858-39; 1864-52, 71; 1868-80; 1876-5
David, Mar. 1859-1; Nov. 1859-29; 1864-24
Dimmes M. Sackett (Mrs. Nelson Smith), 1864-53
Dwight, 1865-92
E., 1862-4
E. D., 1864-51, 53, 55
E. Kirby, 1870-77
E. L. (Major), 1870-77
E. T., 1863-39, 40
Edward F., 1874-110
Elihu, 1867-40
Eliza J. Bennett (Mrs. L. Starr Smith), 1864-52
Elizabeth (Mrs.), 1867-90
Elizabeth Murphy (Mrs. Benjamin P. Smith), 1870-3
Emeline, 1862-21
Emily (Mrs.), 1863-4; 1864-4
Enooh, Nov. 1858-39, 41; 1861-2; 1862-4; 1863-73, 76, 78; 1864-123
Enos, 1863-55; 1870-22
Erastus, 1864-4; 1876-33
Esther, Mar. 1859-1
Eugene, 1865-92; 1874-59
Ezra, 1864-46, 49, 52, 73, 78; 1865-90; 1867-27; 1876-34, 123

SMITH continued
Ezra D., 1864-52, 55
F. F., 1858-43; 1865-91;1878-16
Fannie (Mrs.), 1864-4; 1867-5
Fanny, 1862-29; 1863-4
Fanny (Mrs. Lampson Sherman), Mar. 1859-33; 1865-6, 91
Fanny Spencer (Mrs. Erastus Smith), Mar. 1859-33
Frederick F., 1863-68
Freelove, 1867-40
Freelove Upson (Mrs. James Smith Senior), 1867-40
G. W., 1865-5, 91; 1866-2; 1878-25
George, 1863-5; 1865-110
Gurdon, 1862-20
Gustavus T., 1876-83
H. (Rev.), Sept. 1860-8; 1864-9; 1865-92
H. A., 1864-5; 1865-97
H. R., 1870-114
Hannah Richmond Brown (Mrs. Asa Smith), 1863-68; 1865-54, 57
Harriet, 1864-53
Harriet (Mrs. Caleb Palmer), Mar. 1859-11; Sept. 1860-37
Harriet Ashley (Mrs. Martin Smith), 1868-80
Harris E., 1874-59
Harvey, 1868-58, 83
Havilah, 1864-42, 43
Henry, Nov. 1858-41; 1862-21
Hester P., 1876-127
Hezekiah, 1862-2, 19, 20
Hibbard, June 1858-39
Hiram, 1865-92; 1874-47
Hiram (Rev.), Nov. 1858-14, 17, 18; 1862-4; 1864-7, 8; 1867-3; 1876-113
Hiram R., 1863-68
Horace, 1862-20
Horace S., 1861-7
Ira (Rev.), 1876-70
Isaac, Sept. 1860-15; 1865-92
J. (Mrs.), 1861-3
J. F., 1874-28
J. L., 1870-77
J. W., 1876-84
James (Col.), Nov. 1859-14; Mar. 1860-3; 1863-61; 1864-89; 1865-6, 91; 1866-35, 100; 1867-40
James Jr., 1867-40, 41, 42
James Senior, 1867-40, 41
James B., 1865-92
James F., 1865-91; 1866-95
Jesse, 1876-28
Job, Nov. 1858-39; Mar. 1860-14; 1862-15
Job C., Mar. 1860-14, 23; 1863-73, 78
John, Nov. 1858-2, 41; Sept. 1860-6; 1866-97; 1867-90; 1876-83
John (Mrs.), 1864-3; 1867-90
John C., 1865-92
John Cotton (Gov.), 1867-49
John K., 1864-3
John L., 1874-59
Joseph, Sept. 1860-6; 1864-42; 1876-86
Josiah, Mar. 1859-1; Sept. 1860-4; 1868-70

SMITH continued
Keziah, 1867-40
L. Starr (Mrs. Eliza J. Bennett), 1864-52
Laura, Nov. 1858-41
Laura C. (Mrs. James Poag), 1864-53
Leonard D., 1876-82
Lester, 1865-92; 1867-4
Levanthia W., (Mrs. J. N. Campbell), 1864-47
Levina (Mrs. Ira Blackman), Mar. 1860-24
Louisa (Mrs. Daniel Page), 1864-102
Lovina, 1863-55
Lovina Pierce (Mrs. William Smith), Nov. 1858-17; Mar. 1859-35; Mar. 1860-24
Lucas, 1862-20
Lucious, 1864-45
Lucy, 1864-42
Lucy Webster (Mrs. James Smith), 1867-40
Luman, 1876-83
Lydia, Mar. 1859-33
Lydia M. Rechie (Mrs. Vellery Ezra Smith), 1864-52
Lyman, Nov. 1858-41; 1876-83
M. H. (Lt.), 1874-73
M. P., 1868-70
Major, 1863-53; 1864-115; 1867-7; 1870-19, 20; 1874-2, 12, 20, 30, 37; 1876-10, 16, 97; 1878-2
Maria, 1862-20
Martin, Mar. 1859-33, 34; 1867-40, 41, 1868-80
Martin (Gen.), Sept. 1860-37; 1866-100
Martin H., 1874-60
Mary A., 1866-88
Mary L. Doolittle (Mrs. James Smith Jr.), 1867-41
Matilda, 1864-42
Matilda Martin (Mrs. Harvey Smith), 1868-83
Mina M. (Mrs. Reuben Fox), 1864-51
Moses, 1874-89
Nancy, 1863-68
Nancy (Mrs. Zadock Darrow), 1862-20
Nancy Parker (Mrs. Tinker R. Smith), Mar. 1860-23
Nathan, Nov. 1858-37; Nov. 1859-15; 1862-22, 29; 1870-19
Nathan (Rev.), Nov. 1859-42, 37; 1862-22; 1868-34
Nathaniel, 1870-77
Nathaniel II, 1870-77, 78
Nehemiah, 1862-16, 20
Nelson, 1864-53
Owen, 1864-39
P. G., 1865-91
Patty Smith (Mrs. Benjamin Smith), 1862-20
Paul G., 1862-20, 29
Phedima, Nov. 1859-41
Phedema (Mrs. Sheldon Smith), Mar. 1860-27
Plumee Addeliza (Mrs. J. D. Ellis), 1864-52
Polly R., 1865-92
Rebecca, Nov. 1858-41; 1862-29
Rebecca (Mrs. Daniel Benschoter), 1862-19, 20
Rebecca (Mrs. Joshua Phillips), 1862-21
Rebecca Miner (Mrs. Hezekiah Smith), 1862-20

SMITH continued
Reuben, 1867-40, 41; 1870-77
Robert, 1865-6, 92; 1867-40
Rosannah (Mrs. Elias Bell), 1867-40, 41
Roxy Tucker (Mrs. Truman M. Smith), 1865-21
Ruth, 1867-40
Ruth Judd (Mrs. James Smith), 1867-40
S., 1868-58
S. A., 1865-91
S. D., 1861-5, 6
S. H., 1865-90; 1870-53
Sally, 1863-68
Sally (Mrs. Silas Dewy), Mar. 1860-25
Sally (Mrs. Elias Hutchings), Mar. 1860-24
Sally Harwood (Mrs. Havilah Smith), 1864-42
Sally Sampson (Mrs. Enos Smith), 1863-55; 1870-22
Sally Wood (Mrs. Nehemiah Smith), 1862-16
Samuel, 1867-40, 41
Samuel D., 1861-5, 24; 1865-92
Samuel D. (Rev.), 1861-26; 1862-48
Samuel H., Sept. 1860-18; 1864-7
Sarah (Mrs. Martin Smith), Mar. 1859-33
Sarah Hull Merriman (Mrs. James Smith), 1867-40
Sheldon, Nov. 1859-39; Mar. 1860-27; 1868-33; 1874-10, 93
Sherman, 1863-53, 56, 59; 1864-7; 1865-92; 1868-5; 1870-11, 12, 19, 20; 1876-35,97
Shilletto (Lt.), 1876-77, 79
Simon, 1861-5
Simon A., 1870-3
Smith, 1864-106
Spooner, 1865-53
Stephen, 1863-76
Susan L, 1863-68
Sylvanus, 1876-101
T., 1864-3
Thalia, 1864-53
Theodore, 1862-21
Theodia, 1874-21, 93
Theresa, 1864-53
Thomas, June 1858-30; Nov. 1858-1; 1864-44
Thompson, 1874-59
Timothy S., Mar. 1860-22
Tinker R., Mar. 1860-23; 1865-48
Truman, Mar. 859-33
Truman M., 1862-20; 1865-21
Uriah, 1864-57
Vellery Ezra, 1864-52
W., 1865-79; 1866-51
W. A., 1866-95
W. B., 1866-74, 75; 1868-12; 1870-69; 1878-25
W. B. Sr., 1865-54, 55, 58; 1866-74; 1867-116; 1868-17; 1870-69, 88
W. E., 1870-2
W. R., 1864-73
Walter, 1864-42
Walter E., 1864-52
Warren R., 1874-59
William, June 1858-37, 41; Nov. 1858-17, 41; Mar. 1859-1, 35; Mar. 1860-24; 1876-33

SMITH continued
William B., Nov. 1858-4; Mar. 1859-16, 19, 20; 1863-68; 1865-91; 1866-52; 1868-12; 1870-88; 1876-23, 34; 1878-25
William F., 1876-6
William T., 1874-20
Willis R., 1864-77, 78, 83; 1874-111
SMOYER
C. K., 1876-11, 13, 25
SMUCKER
I., 1870-51
Isaac, 1870-50
SMUR-SMURR
John, 1864-5
William, 1876-35
SMYTH
A. (Rev.), 1868-72
SNODGRASS
Joseph, 1866-87
SNOOKS
Mrs., 1874-33
SNOW
_____ (Mrs. Philip S. Cowel), Sept. 1860-14
Dr., May 1859-30
Mr., Nov. 1858-45; Nov. 1859-4, 27; Sept. 1860-12, 16, 47; 1864-101; 1874-33
Mrs., Sept. 1860-34, 46, 47, 48
Alanson, Sept. 1860-12, 14
Berilla (Mrs. Reuben M. Cherry), 1864-43
Charles, Sept. 1860-14
Docartus P., Sept. 1860-14, 16, 17; 1863-69
Electa, Sept. 1860-13, 14, 48
Electa (Mrs. John Nobles), Mar. 1860-24
Hannah (Mrs.), June 1858-44
Henry, Sept. 1860-12, 14
Laura, June 1858-44; Sept. 1860-13, 14, 48
Leah (Mrs. Alvin Whitten), 1864-43
Lecta, June 1858-44
Millard, Sept. 1860-48
Robert, June 1858-44; Mar. 1859-27; Sept. 1860-12, 16, 48
Sparrow, 1868-86
Willard, June 1858-44; Sept. 1860-13, 14
SNYDER
Capt., 1874-64
Lt., 1874-68
Abner, 1874-59
Daniel, 1870-51
Edmond, 1874-60
Edwin, 1874-60
Josiah, 1874-60
M. H., 1861-13; 1878-26
W. H., May 1859-22
W. T., 1865-92
SOFFERINGS
Frank L, 1876-83
SOLES
John, 1864-49
SOPER
_____, 1862-24
Elias, 1862-30
Sophia Tenant (Mrs. Soper), 1862-24
SOULE
George (Rev.), Mar. 1860-19; 1866-103
SOULES
Mr., 1867-2
SOULES continued
Charles, 1865-52
SOUTHERLAND
Heman, Mar. 1860-31
SOUTHGATE
Judge, June 1858-33, 42; 1862-8
Mrs., 1874-21
Anna C., 1864-113; 1865-53
Anna Keith (Mrs. Robert Scott Southgate), Mar. 1859-39; 1862-10
Robert Scott, June 1858-40, 42; Mar. 1859-37, 38, 39, 41; May 1859-20, 28; Mar. 1860-9, 23; 1862-10, 11, 12; 1864-113; 1865-53; 1874-21; 1876-60, 61, 110
Stewart, Mar. 1859-39; 1864-113; 1865-53; 1874-21
SOVEREIGN
Thomas, Mar. 1860-8
SOUTHMAYD
Erastus, 1876-76
SOWERS
Lt., 1874-72
Mr., 1864-85
Charles H., 1874-60
Cloe Strong (Mrs. John Sowers Jr.), Mar. 1860-24
Dan, 1864-30; 1874-33; 1878-112, 113
George, 1878-113
James, 1864-28, 30
John, June 1858-30; Nov. 1858-2; 1863-4; 1864-28, 30, 31, 35, 88; 1865-6, 91; 1867-4; 1868-81, 101; 1870-1; 1874-32, 33; 1878-113
John Jr., Mar. 1860-24; 1864-28, 30
Mary A., 1878-112, 113
Mary Ann (Mrs. John Sowers), 1864-35
Moses, Mar. 1860-23; 1864-28, 29, 30; 1867-115; 1876-46, 119
William, Mar. 1860-26
SOWTON
Julia Ann Clock (Mrs. William Sowton), 1864-32
William, 1864-32
SOYER
Capt., 1864-109
SPAFFORD
Major, 1868-60; 1870-67
Mrs., 1868-11
Adolphus, 1865-27
Amos, Mar. 1859-5, 6
Aurora, 1865-27
SPALDING
Carlos, Mar. 1860-42
Simon, June 1858-40
SPANGENBURG
Bishop, 1862-60
SPANGLER
_____, 1876-100
Henry J., 1874-59
SPARKS
Riley, 1874-59
SPARROW
Mrs., May 1859-21
Samuel, Nov. 1859-9; 1876-46

SPAULDING
Carlos, Mar. 1860-42
Simon, June 1858-40
SPEAR-SPEARS
Mrs., 1874-14
Barton W., 1865-112
Love (Mrs. William Spear), 1860-5; 1868-70
William, Mar. 1860-25; Sept. 1860-5; 1863-18; 1868-70, 81
SPEERS
William, 1865-49
SPENCER
Mr., Sept. 1860-16
Fanny (Mrs. Erastus Smith), Mar. 1859-33
H., June 1858-30
Hiram, Nov. 1858-17; 1874-89
Lydia Brockway (Mrs. Samuel Spencer), Mar. 1859-33
Nancy A. (Mrs.), 1864-4
Samuel, 1864-64; 1874-89
Samuel (Gen.), Mar. 1859-33, 34
Samuel Jr., 1874-89
Samuel C., Nov. 1858-14, 16, 17; Mar. 1859-33, 34, 35; 1864-64; 1865-49
William, 1870-50
SPENSE
H. E., 1864-118
SPERRY
Wheeler, 1868-49
SPICER
Mr., 1868-50
Benjamin, 1864-28
Isaac, 1864-28
Rachel, 1864-28
SPINING
Squire, 1870-90
SPITTLE
Benjamin, 1874-61
SPRAGUE
Capt., 1867-65
Family, 1863-12; 1868-43, 44
Judge, May 1859-19; Nov. 1859-18; 1861-22; 1868-76-1870-48
Mr., 1865-57; 1868-43
Mrs., 1876-24
Caroline, Nov. 1859-19; 1876-34; 1878-108
Caroline (Mrs. Henry F. Merry), Nov., 1859-15, 19
E., 1863-55
Ezra, Nov. 1859-15, 16, 19; Mar. 1860-22, 23; 1864-91; 1865-48; 1868-81; 1876-34, 46; 1878-18, 108
George, June 1858-46
Harriet, 1876-46
J. W. (Col.), 1863-66
John W. (Gen.), 1863-66; 1876-23
Jonathan, June 1858-46; Nov. 1858-36; 1862-39; 1863-69; 1866-54; 1876-23
Jonathan (Junior), 1862-39
Jonathan S., 1863-69, 70; 1876-23
Joseph, 1874-44
Lucy, 1876-23
Lucy Ward (Mrs. J. W. Sprague), 1863-66
Mahala Daily (Mrs. Jonathan S. Sprague), 1863-69
SPRAGUE continued
Otis, 1865-31
Rhoda (Mrs. Alexander Case) (Mrs. Aaron C. Buck) (Mrs. Almon Ruggles), 1863-85
S. H., 1863-4
Simon, 1861-2
Simon H., Nov. 1858-4; 1861-2; 1866-95; 1868-9; 1874-36, 93
SPRINGER
_____, Nov. 1858-27
Hugo C., 1876-83
Lorin S., 1874-60
SPRIGMAN
P. A., 1864-117
SPROUT
Ebenezer, 1868-23; 1870-62
SQUIRE-SQUIRES
Mr., May 1859-19; 1876-98
Adaline (Mrs. John Brooks Jr.), Nov. 1859-15; 1867-88
Burgess, 1864-114
C. B., June 1858-4; Mar. 1859-17; 1878-63
Charles B., Nov. 1859-16
Douglass, 1865-91
Fanny, 1868-9
George, 1862-2; 1868-9
Joab (Capt.), Nov. 1859-15; 1863-5, 6; 1867-87; 1868-34; 1874-36
Mary Buckley (Mrs. Joab Squires), 1867-87
Rebecca, 1874-36
Ruth, Nov. 1859-16; 1867-88
Virgil, 1874-36, 93
William, Mar. 1860-30
SRUTHEY
Albert, 1874-61
STACEY
Mr., 1870-68, 69
STAHL
William, 1874-61
STANDARD
B. A., 1870-50
STANBERY
William (Hon.), 1870-50
STANDART
_____, 1863-69
Charles, 1861-3; 1876-23, 102, 113
Charles (Judge), 1865-91; 1866-2, 27, 95
Charles W., 1876-102
E. J. (Mrs.), 1876-127
George, 1861-3
G. Henry, 1876-102
Henry, 1876-101
Needham M., Mar. 1860-14; 1861-45; 1868-71, 81; 1876-13, 24, 101, 102, 114
S. W., 1876-127
S. W. (Mrs.), 1876-14, 15
Sarah O. (Mrs. Thomas Hamilton), 1876-115
Stephen H., 1876-102
Stephen W., 1861-4; 1865-91; 1876-14, 15, 127
William E. (Capt.), 1876-102
STANDISH
Miles, 1867-96
Miles (Capt.), Mar. 1860-19; 1868-115
Nathan, 1862-40

STANDISH continued
Phebe, 1870-1
Rose (Mrs. Miles Standish), Mar. 1860-19; 1868-115
STANFORD
Gamaliel (Mrs.), 1874-108
STANLEY
Dr., 1878-62
Caleb, 1870-78
W., 1870-108
STANNARD
Daniel, 1863-80
Rhoda Cuddeback (Mrs. Daniel Stannard), 1863-80
STANTON
Betsy (Mrs. Thomas D. Webb), 1865-29
G. R. (Dr.), Mar. 1860-10
STAPLETON
Widow, 1876-23
STARBIRD
Austin (Dr.), 1876-4,123
STARK
Capt., 1867-10
Mr., Mar. 1860-30
A. J. (Mrs.), 1868-11
Adelia (Mrs.), 1868-86
Daniel, 1876-82
STARR
Mr., Nov. 1858-36; May 1859-19; Sept. 1860-4; 1864-89; 1867-77
Anna (Mrs. Noah Starr), 1868-7
Brumbacker, 1862-28
Caroline A., 1866-95
Clementina Clark (Mrs. Thomas Starr), Nov. 1858-35
D. H., 1864-7
D. Ann, 1865-92
Dudley, 1861-25
Epenetus, Nov. 1858-17; 1864-40, 45
H. P., Sept. 1860-2; 1861-6; 1862-3
Hiram, 1861-25
Hiram P., 1865-91
Huldah, 1864-45
Jerrod, 1861-24, 25
Merrill L, 1876-83
Noah, Nov. 1858-17; 1868-7
Percy, 1861-25
Perez, Nov. 1858-29, 34, 35, 36; 1861-1, 2, 23; 1862-29
Rory, 1865-92
Smith, June 1858-45; Nov. 1858-20, 22, 23; May 1859-23, 24; 1863-56; 1864-89; 1865-29; 1867-88; 1868-52, 81
Thomas, Nov. 1858-34, 35, 36; 1861-25; 1862-15, 28
William, 1861-25
William E., Nov. 1858-35
William Eldridge, Nov. 1858-35
STATES
Mrs., 1878-107
STEADMAN
_____, 1861-23
STEARNS
S. H., Mar. 1859-21; 1878-26
Vespasian, 1864-121
STEBBINS
_____, 1864-50
Alfred, 1866-95
C. B., 1861-14
Eliza (Mrs.), 1876-14, 127
Enos, 1866-116
Jarvis, 1865-92
Lorinda Cowell (Mrs. Stebbins), 1864-50
Noah, 1866-116
STEEL-STEELE
Family, 1878-34
Ambrose, 1876-87
Jacob, 1866-61; 1874-60
James, 1870-78
John, 1870-51; 1874-60
Levi J., 1874-60
Nathan, Sept. 1860-23
Simon, 1874-60
William, 1876-82
STEEN
_____, 1862-22
Lucinda Stevens (Mrs. Steen), 1862-22
STEEPLETON
Delia Benschoter (Mrs. Steepleton), 1862-13
STEINBERGER
Peter, 1867-8
STEINER
Abraham G., 1878-71
STEINMAN
Gotleib, 1870-95
STEPHENS
Alfred B., 1876-86
Edwards D., 1876-86
James, 1870-75
Samuel (Dr.), 1866-35
STEPHENSON
Sally Wood (Mrs. Zebulon Stephenson), Mar. 1860-24
Zebulon, Mar. 1860-24
STERLING
J. H., 1870-12, 34
STEVENS
_____ Merry (Mrs. Jacob Stevens), 1867-90
Dr., 1862-79; 1868-114
Mr., 1870-72
Mrs., 1868-11
Bradstreet (Mrs.), 1874-7, 92
D. L, 1864-44
David M. C., 1878-32, 33
Ezra, 1876-81
Guy, Mar. 1859-1; Nov. 1859-25; 1867-68; 1876-124
Jacob, 1865-81, 91; 1867-90
James (Esq), 1870-69, 72, 75
John, 1865-91
Lucinda (Mrs. Steen), 1862-22
Lucy Abbott (Mrs. Guy Stevens), Mar. 1859-1; May 1859-45; Nov. 1859-25; 1867-68; 1876-124
Olive (Mrs. Ben Summers), Nov. 1858-43; 1878-66
Perwilla (Mrs. George Hendryx), 1870-24
Phineas, 1868-11
Polly (Mrs. William Poyer), 1862-22

STEVENS continued
R. W., 1876-4, 124
Samuel (Dr.), Nov. 1859-12; 1867-93
Seymour, 1865-92
Sophia (Mrs. John Weeden), 1862-79
Thomas, 1862-21, 28
William, 1876-4
Zebulon, Mar. 1860-15
STEVENSON
Col., 1864-109
Mr., 1868-12
Mrs., 1868-12
STEWARD
George H., 1868-86
STEWART
Mr., May 1859-17; Nov. 1859-46; 1876-10
A. G., June 1858-30; Nov. 1858-1, 2; Mar. 1859-7; 1865-91
Alexander, 1867-105
Calvin, 1870-51
Charles, 1876-82
E., 1865-92
E. (Judge), 1863-7; 1866-8
Elisha, Mar. 1859-13, 16
Ezra, Mar. 1859-16
Gideon T., June 1858-26, 28, 30, 41, 42, 48; Nov. 1858-1, 46; Mar. 1860-3; Sept. 1860-1, 2; 1861-5, 6, 11; 1862-3, 5; 1865-91; 1867-3, 29; 1868-2, 13; 1870-2, 50; 1874-2, 3, 20, 30, 34, 37, 119; 1876-1, 6, 10, 11, 12, 13, 15, 16, 17, 69, 70, 72, 75; 1878-1, 2, 4
Sarah (Mrs. John Summers), Nov. 1858-43
Simeon Jr., 1864-57
Thomas A., 1865-102, 108, 110
STICKNEY
_____, 1878-27
C. B. (Judge), 1874-37; 1876-17, 58
STIFFLER
Anthony, 1865-68
STILES
_____ (Mrs. John Wheeler), 1868-48
_____ (Mrs. Thomas Wheeler), 1868-48
Anson Thomas, 1868-67
Arminta (Mrs. Newton Kane), 1868-66
Benjamin, Juen 1858-45; Nov. 1858-22; May 1859-24; 1865-91; 1868-48
Clara (Mrs. Allen Thomas), 1868-66
David, 1868-62, 63, 64, 65, 66, 67, 68; 1874-93
Edwin, 1868-67
Elizabeth Cummins (Mrs. David Stiles), 1868-66
Ezra (Rev.), 1868-63
Lucinda (Mrs. Robert Young), (Mrs. Reuben Hoag), 1868-67
Martha Ransom (Mrs. David Stiles), 1868-66
Mary (Mrs. Daniel Bostwick), 1868-66
Nathan, 1868-67
Reuben, 1868-66
Rudd, 1868-66
Samuel, June 1858-45; Nov. 1858-22; May 1859-24
Sarah (Mrs. H. R. Coulter), 1868-66
STILLSON
Orrin, 1865-90
STILLWELL
Lydia Tryon (Mrs. Stephen Stillwell), 1865-53
STILLWELL continued
Stephen, Mar. 1860-28; 1865-53
STILSON
Z. B., 1864-44, 47
STIMPSON
Miss, 1867-108
Sally, Mar. 1859-22; 1878-28
STOAKS
John, 1878-61
STOCK
Charles, Sept. 1860-1
STOCKHOLM
John, 1868-68
Rebecca Negus (Mrs. John Stockholm), 1868-68
STOCKING
Mrs., 1874-22
Chester, 1863-39
STOCKLEY
George, 1874-61
STOCKMASTER
Martin, 1874-59, 74
STODDARD
_____, Mar. 1859-27
Asa, 1865-27, 28
Bryant, 1870-77
Christiana, 1866-93
Esther, 1866-93
Hannah, 1866-93
Mary, 1866-93
R. H., 1878-68
Rebekah, 1866-93
Sarah, 1866-93
Soloman (Rev.), 1866-93
STOKELY
George, 1874-75
STOKES
J. W. (Mrs.), 1867-90
STONE
Deacon, 1874-47
Mrs., 1867-102
Abigail Foster (Mrs. Job Stone), 1867-106
Agustus, 1874-46
Augustus (Col.), 1868-23, 24
B. F., 1868-24
Emily Cuddeback (Mrs. George Stone), 1863-80
George (Capt.), 1863-80
Hannah Barnes (Mrs. Job Stone), 1867-106
James, 1870-77
Job, 1867-106
Lewis, 1866-35
Melvin, 1874-103
W., (Rev.), Nov. 1859-34
W. F. (Hon.), 1870-5
Walter F., 1876-12
William B., 1864-3; 1865-6
STONER
Mr., 1874-24
STORER
Judge, 1866-88, 90, 91
B., 1866-93
STORES-STORRS
Anna Harris (Mrs. Libens Storrs), Mar. 1860-24; 1862-16
Elisha, 1865-91

STORES-STORRS continued
Libens, Mar. 1860-24; 1862-16, 28; 1863-52; 1870-52
STOTTS
Abram, 1863-61, 63
Isaac, 1863-61
John, 1863-61
William, 1863-61; 1868-80
STOUGH
John (Rev.), 1865-118
Mary M. (Mrs. Martin Hester), 1864-102; 1865-118; 1870-39
STOUT
Alpha, Mar. 1860-37
H. D., 1866-87
STOW-STOWE
Mr., 1864-95
E., 1867-75
Joshua, 1862-94; 1876-76
L. S. 1870-34
L. S. (Mrs.), 1870-34
Luke, 1878-3
Norris, O., 1876-100
Samuel E., 1874-61
STOWEL
Lorin, Mar. 1860-40
STOYELL
Dr., 1876-25
STRANGE
Stephen, 1876-78
STRATTON
Mr., 1874-4
Daniel, 1865-91; 1878-93
Thomas, 1865-91; 1870-2
William P., 1866-93
William P. (Mrs.), 1866-86
STRAUSBURGER
John, 1870-84
STRAUSER
Andrew, 1874-61
STREET
_____, 1876-29
Titus, 1876-28
STREETER
Douglass, 1876-82
STRIBLE
Joseph, 1876-83
STRICKFATHER
Edward, 1874-59
STRINGHAM
Henry, 1874-108
STRONG
_____, 1870-3
_____ (Mrs. William W. Watros), 1868-75
Capt., Nov. 1859-10; 1867-41
Deacon, 1868-75
Dr., Nov. 1858-39; May 1859-20
Major, 1864-34
Mr., 1864-28; 1868-58
Abner, Nov. 1859-8, 9, 10, 12; 1866-35
Asahel, 1866-95
C., 1874-86
Cloe (Mrs. John Sowers Jr.), Mar. 1860-24
Curtis, 1865-6; 1866-95
Cynthia (Mrs. John N. Sloan), Nov. 1859-10; Mar. 1860-25
STRONG continued
Cyrus, Mar. 1860-26; 1868-9, 34, 36; 1865-91; 1874-6, 86; 1876-1
Diantha Boalt (Mrs. Strong), 1870-3
Elijah (Major), 1868-26
Esther, Mar. 1860-26; 1868-37
Esther (Mrs. Leveritt Hill), 1868-34
Francis, Nov. 1859-8, 9, 10, 11; Mar. 1860-25; 1867-41
Francis (Dr.), 1866-35
Hannah, 1866-87
Harriet, 1863-4
Harriet Underhill (Mrs. Nathan Strong), Nov. 1859-10; Sept. 1860-45; 1867-65
Henry, Mar. 1860-31
Hiram, Nov. 1859-9
J., 1870-77
J. O., 1863-6
James, Mar. 1860-24
John, 1870-12
Joseph, June 1858-24; Nov. 1858-28; Nov. 1859-8, 11, Mar. 1860-24; 1874-44; 1878-18
Joseph (Major), Nov. 1859-8, 10; 1863-89; 1865-50; 1866-35, 39; 1870-87
Joseph Jr., Nov. 1859-11
Joseph B., 1865-50
L. E., Nov. 1859-8, 12; 1865-91, 92
Leicester, Nov. 1859-8
Lester, Nov. 1859-12
Liddia Myers (Mrs. Joseph Strong), Mar. 1860-24
Lyman E. Nov. 1859-8, 9, 10, 11, 12; 1865-92
Mary Ann (Mrs. James D. Collins), Nov. 1859-10
Moses, May 1859-17
Nancy (Mrs. William W. Watrous), Mar. 1860-25
Nathan (Col.), June 1858-45; Nov. 1859-8, 9, 10, 11, 12; Mar. 1860-24; Sept. 1860-5, 45; 1867-65
Northam M., 1876-84
Ozias, 1870-3
Peletiah, Nov. 1859-11
S. R., 1868-26
Sally, 1867-65
Sally Strong (Mrs. James Strong), Mar. 1860-24
Silas C., May 1859-21
Silas G., 1865-48
Submit (Mrs.), 1866-87
Susan A., 1868-9, 87
T. (Rev.), June 1858-40
T. R., 1874-102
Truman (Rev.), 1876-60, 61
Walter, Nov. 1859-2
Zadock, 1865-91
Zadock (Capt.), Nov. 1859-8, 11, 12; 1866-35
Zebulon, 1866-87, 91
STROUP-STROUPE
Joseph, 1876-84
P. B. (Rev.), 1867-6, 7, 9
STRUTTON
L. D., 1874-37; 1876-58

STUART
_____ ADAMS (Mrs. M. Stuart), 1867-90
Louisa, 1866-87
M. (Dr.), 1867-90
Moses, 1864-11
P. P., 1870-108
STUBBS
_____, 1876-33
STULL
Mr., Nov. 1859-7, 8; 1864-88
STULTS
H. C., 1874-74
STULTZ
Henry C., 1874-59
STURGESS-STURGES
Mr., Nov. 1858-18; 1865-56; 1868-99
Barlow (Capt.), Nov. 1858-39; Mar. 1860-21; 1863-81; 1864-48; 1866-5
Charlotte (Mrs. Frederick Sturges) (Mrs. George Austin), 1863-78, 81, 87
Daniel, 1874-100
Eunice, 1863-73; 1866-5
Eunice (Mrs. Barlow Sturges), 1863-81
Eunice (Mrs. Sylvester A. Pelton), 1863-81
Frederick (Capt.), Mar. 1860-23; 1862-15; 1863-78, 81, 87
Hezekiah, Sept. 1860-23
Jane F., 1865-92
Jonathan, June 1858-17; 1863-95; 1878-9
Lewis B., 1863-60
Sarah (Mrs. Austin Pelton), 1863-81
Sophia Francis, 1874-100
Thaddeus B., Nov. 1859-1; 1868-80, 81; 1876-36, 41, 42
Thomas B., Nov. 1858-36
STURGIS
_____, 1865-56
Peter, 1864-57
Eunice, 1866-5
STURDEVANT-STURTEVANT
_____ (Mrs. Baxter Ashley), 1867-90
Adelade Carter (Mrs. Isaac Sturdevant), 1864-51
Adelaide E. Taylor (Mrs. Samuel C. Sturdevant), 1864-51
Anna Wolcott (Mrs. William B. Sturdevant), 1864-51
B., 1864-54, 55; 1868-80, 81; 1876-34
Bradford, June 1858-30; Nov. 1858-1, 4; 1864-50; 1876-34; 1878-113
Bradford T., 1864-51
Carlton H., 1864-50, 51
Eva May, 1864-51
H. A., 1876-127
Harriet, 1864-50, 51
Huldah Adelaide Carter (Mrs. Isaac Sturtevant), 1864-53
Isaac, 1864-50, 51, 53
Isaac, 1862-6; 1864-51;1874-12; 1878-113
Isaac G., 1876-4
James Wilson, 1864-51, 53
Lydia Peck (Mrs. Carleton H. Sturdevant), 1864-51
Marcia (Mrs. B. Ashley), 1864-50, 51
Martha E. (Mrs. Horace Taylor), 1864-51
Nelson, 1864-51
Rosetta E., 1864-51
STURDEVANT-STURTEVANT continued
S. C., 1864-6; 1866-2
Samuel C., 1864-48, 50, 51
Sarah, 1864-55
Sarah (Mrs. Galpin), 1864-50, 51
Sarah Carter (Mrs. Bradford Sturdevant), 1864-50
Sarah Lavinia (Mrs. William Gault), 1864-53
William B., 1864-50, 51
Willie C., 1864-51, 53
STEYVESANT
Gov., 1866-99
SUIRE
F. E., 1870-76
SULLIVAN
L. B., 1867-28
Let B. (Rev.), Nov. 1859-12, 40; Sept. 1860-6; 1863-51, 71; 1868-31; 1876-63, 107
S. B., 1862-29
S. N. B. (Rev.), 1868-71
SUMMERLAIN
Elizabeth, 1864-45
Sarah P., 1865-91
Spencer, 1865-91
SUMMERS
_____, 1870-5
Judge, 1868-10; 1870-30
B., Nov. 1858-4; 1867-42; 1868-2, 3; 1876-10
Benjamin (Judge), Nov. 1858-39, 40, 41, 42, 43; 1861-1, 3; 1863-7, 72, 74; 1864-48; 1866-4; 1868-2, 3, 51; 1870-2, 6, 7, 8, 9, 28, 50; 1874-1, 3, 4, 7, 8, 9, 10, 12, 15, 16, 17, 19, 20, 21, 23, 24, 25, 28, 29, 30, 31, 32, 34, 35, 37; 1876-8, 12, 117; 1878-65, 66, 67, 68
Betsey (Mrs. Samuel Walker), Nov. 1858-43
Charles B., 1876-118
Dinah Botsford (Mrs. Mark Summers), Nov. 1858-43
John, Nov. 1858-43; 1862-21, 23
John (Esquire), Nov. 1858-38, 41
Julia (Mrs. William B. Summers), Nov. 1858-39
Julia B., 1876-8, 117
Julia Burr (Mrs. Mark Summers), Nov. 1858-43
Mark, Nov. 1858-41, 43; 1863-73, 78, 79; 1876-117, 118; 1878-65
Mary Ann Hill (Mrs. John Summers), Nov. 1858-43; 1862-21, 23
Olive Stevens (Mrs. Benjamin Summers), Nov. 1858-43
Sally (Mrs. Daniel Chandler), Nov. 1858-43; Sept. 1861-25; 1870-28, 48
Samuel, 1878-65
Sarah Stewart (Mrs. John Summers) Nov. 1858-43
William B., Nov. 1858-39
Zerah B., 1876-117, 118
SUMNER
Rev. Dr., 1866-102
SUNDERLAND
Dr., 1864-16, 17
Peleg, 1867-66

SUTHERLAND
Amy, (Mrs. Joseph Sutton) (Mrs. Jacob Reerback), 1864-51
Nezer, 1876-6
SUTLIFF
_____, 1862-84
Lela (Mrs. Lett Herrick), Mar. 1859-37, 42
Loretta Lawrence (Mrs. Nathan Sutliff), Mar. 1859-40
Nathan, Mar. 1859-38, 39, 40, 41, 42; Mar. 1860-26; 1876-110
SUTOR
William, 1861-6
SUTTON
_____ Washburn (Mrs. Alansen Sutton), 1864-74
A. J., 1876-10
A. S. (Lt.), 1876-78, 81
Alansen, 1864-74, 78
Alfred G., 1876-73, 74
Anthony S., 1876-10
Aransen, 1864-70, 74, 78
Catharine, 1874-110
Cathrine Kile (Mrs. Levi R. Sutton), June 1858-37, 38
David, Mar. 1860-24
Deaborah (Mrs. Joseph C. Washburn), 1864-78
G. A., 1876-10
Henry, 1864-70
Isaac, June 1858-37
Jacob, 1865-91
Levi, Nov 1859-9; 1864-28, 34
Levi R., June 1858-30, 31, 36, 37, 38, 39; Nov. 1858-2; Nov. 1859-9; Mar. 1860-46, 48; 1865-91; 1874-25, 93, 110
Levi Jr., 1874-110
Levi Sr., 1874-110
Lucy Wells (Mrs. David Sutton), Mar. 1860-24
Luther, June 1858-38
Phillip, Sept. 1860-16
Riley, 1864-75
William, 1864-71, 72; 1874-109
SWALLEY
F., 1864-88; 1866-9
SWAN
Capt., 1864-88
Adam (Capt.), 1864-87
B. C. (Rev.), 1876-105
George M., 1861-12, 13
Giles, 1864-87, 88, 89
Gustavus, June 1858-25
Joseph, 1868-86
Nathan, 1864-53
SWART
Isaac, 1876-84
SWARTS
William, Mar. 1860-30
SWARTZ
Isaac, 1876-86
SWEARS
Frederick, 1878-61
SWEARINGEN
James S., (Col.), 1864-107
SWEATE
Charles, 1864-102
SWEATE continued
Lexey Page Ivory (Mrs. Charles Sweate), 1864-102
SWEATLAND
Mr., 1864-34, 101
Mrs., 1864-34, 101
SWEENEY
Margaret, 1866-87
SWEET
Mr., 1866-53; 1867-22, 78
Alpheus, 1876-62
Byron, 1865-92
Esther, Mar. 1860-29
James, 1878-2, 113
Joseph, 1865-11
Levi A., 1876-82
Levi H., 1876-127
Lucy, 1876-127
William, 1863-54, 56, 58; 1870-19
SWEETLAND
_____, 1878-5
D., June 1858-30; Nov. 1858-2; 1866-2; 1867-4; 1870-11; 1876-10, 16; 1878-2
G. E., 1876-84
Lorense, 1874-60, 75
SWIFT
Mrs., 1861-2
Elisa Rott (Mrs. Joseph Swift), Mar. 1860-25
Joseph, Mar. 1860-25; 1866-95
Zephaniah (Hon.), 1865-29
SWIGART
Joseph R., 1876-77
SWORTHOUT
Phillip, 1870-20
SYKES
Daniel, 1867-75
Otis, 1874-60
SYLVIA
Ann, 1878-28
SYMONS
Judge, 1866-87
John Clever, Nov. 1858-10
John Cleves, 1868-23
SYPHER
General, 1876-36

TAFT
Austin, 1863-61
Lucretia (Mrs. Henry Niles), 1865-122
Lucy (Mrs. Are Danforth,), Mar. 1859-39
Lucy (Mrs. Samuel Taft), Mar. 1859-39
Samuel, Mar. 1859-39
TAGGART
James, 1876-82
TAINTOR
_____, 1863-51
Elizabeth (Mrs. Noah Rogers), 1865-65
Jerusha (Mrs.), 1876-123
Jesse, 1863-52; 1870-52
John, 1870-20
Lucien, 1863-50
Michael, 1865-65
TALCOTT
Rev. Mr., 1868-9

TALIAFERRO
W. T. (Dr.), 1870-113; 1874-41
TALIMADGE
Benjamin, 1870-77
TALOR
Cyrus, 1874-60
TANNER
_____, 1865-28; 1870-18
Hawley, June 1858-43; 1878-16
Hiram, 1870-11, 34
Nathan , 1862-9
Sally Rundle (Mrs. Nathan Tanner), 1862-9
TANNERY
Margaretta, Sept. 1860-19
TAPP
John, June 1858-37
TAPPAN
Abraham, June 1858-24; 1870-87; 1878-18
Benjamin (Hon.), June 1858-15; 1864-106; 1866-76; 1870-102
Benjamin (Dr.), 1876-77
E. T. (Judge), 1874-30
TAYLOR
_____ (Mrs. B. B. Burk), 1868-112
General, 1864-15
Judge, 1861-3
Mr., Nov. 1859-47; 1876-101
Rev., 1863-71
Adelaide E. (Mrs. Samuel C. Sturdevant), 1864-51
Alfred, 1865-92
Anson H., 1874-59
B. B., 1866-8, 95
B. F., 1868-47
Benjamin F., Mar. 1859-41
C. W., 1865-4
Careline E., 1870-45
Charles, 1862-6
Charles W., 1870-45
Charlotte Bell (Mrs. Nelson Tayler), 1870-45
Condace D., 1870-45
Cyrus, 1874-60
D. B., 1870-12
D. G., 1866-95; 1874-2, 12, 20, 30, 37; 1876-10, 16; 1878-2
Daniel, 1863-95
Dennis G., 1865-20, 24
E., 1865-4
Elizabeth, 1865-18
Ellen Martin (Mrs. William Tayler), 1868-112
Elery, 1865-18, 20, 92
Enoch, 1864-53, 56
H. C. (Rev.), June 1858-30
Hannah (Mrs. Roswell Eddy), 1866-82; 1870-45
Hannah Winters (Mrs. Nelson Tayler), 1870-44, 45
Henry, 1864-113, 121
Horace, 1864-51
Horace C. (Rev.), June 1858-30; 1864-51
Irenne (Mrs.), 1865-99
Isaac, 1864-51
TAYLOR continued
J. W., 1861-13
Jesse, 1865-4, 11, 18, 21, 24; 1868-44
John, Mar. 1859-16
Joseph, 1865-11, 19, 21; 1866-77; 1870-45; 1876-82
Joseph Sr., 1870-45
Julia (Mrs.), 1865-18, 21, 92; 1868-13, 93
Juliette (Mrs), 1866-3
Julius, 1865-20
Lois (Mrs.), 1865-20, 23; 1870-45
Lucretia, 1864-51
Lyman, 1865-21
Maria (Mrs. Joseph E. Otis), 1865-18
Martha, 1864-51
Martha Atkins (Mrs. Nelson Tayler), 1870-45
Martha E. Sturdevant (Mrs. Horace Tayler), 1864-51
Mary Ann, 1865-92
Nelson, 1865-20; 1870-44, 45
Phile, 1868-112
Polly Ann Lockwood (Mrs. Lyman Tayler), 1865-21
S. F., Nov. 1858-2; 1861-4; 1862-6; 1865-92; 1867-4; 1876-16, 75
T. B., 1866-2, 95
Timothy, Mar. 1859-41; 1874-88
Truman B., 1865-18
Urial, 1865-27
William, 1866-95; 1867-28; 1868-111, 112
William (Col.), May 1859-17
William P., 1865-92
Zachary (General), 1865-105
TAYTON
C., 1864-43
Eunice Cherry (Mrs. C. Tayton), 1864-43
TEED
S. (Mrs.), 1867-75
TEEGARDNER
Dr., 1868-53
TELLER
Samuel, 1870-10; 1878-113, 114
TEMPLE
Brother, 1870-81
TENANT
Mr., Nov. 1859-11
Mrs., 1864-3
Betsey, 1865-92
Careline (Mrs. R. M. Ransom), 1862-25
Charles P., 1862-24
Clarissa (Mrs. Glenn), 1862-25
D. W., 1862-25; 1863-4, 6; 1866-2; 1876-12
Daniel, 1862-24
Daniel W., 1865-92; 1866-2; 1874-30; 1876-12
Edwin, 1862-24
Eliza, 1862-25
Fanny J. (Mrs. H. L. Hill), 1862-25
Henry, 1862-24
Lucy Ann (Mrs. Edwin I. Hill), 1862-24
M. A. (Mrs.), 1862-3
Smith, 1863-6
Sophia (Mrs. Soper), 1862-24, 25
Sterling, 1862-2, 24; 1863-4; 1865-92

TENANT continued
Temperance Pomeroy (Mrs. Timothy Tenant), 1862-24
Timothy, 1862-24, 28
TENNEY
D. (Rev.), 1870-51
TERRELL-TERRILL
Albert (Mrs.), Nov. 1859-3
Philander, 1861-42
Sally Headley (Mrs. Albert Terrell), Nov. 1859-3
Samuel N., 1876-86
Henry, Mar. 1859-40, 41; 1862-10; 1864-45, 113; 1865-53
Henry G., 1864-45
John, 1876-73, 74
Roxana, 1864-45
Roxina Guthrie (Mrs. Henry Terry), 1862-10
TERWILLIGER
J. M., 1876-84
TESLIE
Daniel, 1876-86
THATCHER
Mr., 1870-110
_____ (Mrs. John Seymour), 1866-36
Maria, 1874-108
Moses (Dr.), 1866-36
Peter, 1865-2
THAYER
Mr., 1865-64
Jason Z., June 1858-45; May 1859-24; Mar. 1860-29
Ziba, May 1859-24
THIERS
A., 1861-15
THOBURN
General, 1874-68, 69
THOMAS
Allen, 1868-66
Clara Stiles (Mrs. Allen Thomas), 1868-66
Edwin D., 1876-127
George, 1876-4
Henry, 1874-50
S. W., 1863-7
Thomas S., Sept. 1860-16
U. B., 1864-74
W. B., 1864-71, 74
William, 1878-61
William H., 1874-59
THOMPSON
Bishop, 1874-14
Mr., Nov. 1858-34; 1866-55; 1868-17, 18
A. (Bishop), 1878-93
Augustus C. (Rev.), 1866-103
B., 1870-69
Benjamin, 1870-69; 1874-61
Charles S., 1864-46
Creighton, 1876-78, 79
E. (Dr.), June 1858-7
Edward, Nov. 1858-40; Mar. 1860-20
G., 1862-3
J. C. (Rev.), 1867-28; 1868-6
J. Edgar, 1874-49
J. H., 1878-3
Jehiel, Mar. 1860-2
THOMPSON continued
John, Nov. 1858-36; 1862-28; 1874-49
Justus, 1862-3
Maria, 1866-88
Moses, 1878-61
Samuel, 1870-8, 9
Sheldon, 1876-24, 26
THOMSON
Edward, 1870-40
THORLEY
Joseph, 1867-75
THORNBURGH
Thomas H., 1876-78
THURSTON
Solomon, Nov. 1858-36
THORP
Augustus, 1870-4
Hannah (Mrs.), 1870-3
James (Rev.), 1865-92
Jeremiah, 1862-25
John, 1865-92
Nathaniel, 1862-25, 26
THORPE
Mr., Mar. 1859-21
Mary P. Burnham (Mrs. Nathaniel Thorpe), 1862-26
Moses, Mar. 1860-25
Raby Pearse (Mrs. Moses Thorpe), Mar. 1860-25
TIBALL
Miss (Mrs. Dean), (Mrs. George Donaldson), 1868-19
THURSTON
Henry, 1876-29
John, 1876-29
TICE
Elizabeth, May 1859-20
John, Sept. 1860-44
Peter (Capt.), May 1859-19, 20, 21; Sept. 1860-41, 44; 1862-85
TIDD
Joseph, 1868-84
TIFFANY
R. Jr., 1861-1
TIFFIN
Edward (Gov.), Sept. 1860-32; 1864-105, 118; 1867-104; 1874-41; 1876-31
TILDEN
Daniel (Colonel), May 1859-19, 21; Nov. 1859-37; Sept. 1860-41; 1864-9, 29; 1865-92; 1870-12
Daniel (M. D.), Sept. 1860-45; 1865-46, 52, 53; 1866-40; 1868-18; 1870-12, 13, 14, 15; 1874-113; 1876-7, 108; 1878-59
M. R., 1878-63
Myron H., 1861-12
Nancy Drake (Mrs. Daniel Tilden), 1870-13
William (Judge), 1874-113
TILEY
Mrs., 1864-117
TILGHMAN
Chief Justice, 1870-115
TILLTSON
Norman H., 1874-59
TILLEY
Betsey, Mar. 1860-20

TILLEY continued
John, Mar. 1860-20
TILLINGHAST
Family, 1862-27
Mr., 1867-82; 1868-41
Charles, Nov. 1858-35
Cromwell, 1874-37; 1876-10
George, 1865-92; 1867-8
Joseph, 1861-26
Mary, 1874-11
Mary (Mrs.), 1867-8; 1868-3
R. E., 1867-75
William, 1861-7; 1865-92; 1870-12; 1874-2, 12
TILLISON
Family, Nov. 1858-34, 37
Mr., Nov. 1858-34
Chauncey, Nov. 1858-37
Reuben, Nov. 1858-37
Richard, Nov. 1858-37
TILLOTSON-TILLOTTSON
_____ (Mrs. Root), Mar. 1859-1
Mr., 1863-67, 70
Christopher E., 1874-60
George M., 1876-78
Isaac, 1863-73
Isaac Jr., 1863-73
Phineas, Mar. 1859-1
Thomas, June 1858-37; Mar. 1859-1
TILLSON
Alonso, 1865-93
Squire, 1858-40
Thomas, 1858-37, 39; 1876-110
TIMANUS
Richard H., 1874-61, 75
TIMBERLICK
Mr., 1870-114
TINDALL
William, 1864-63
TINKER
Mr., Nov. 1859-22
Thomas, Mar. 1860-20
TINKHAM
Edward I., 1865-110
TISDALE
Charles, 1874-60
TISDELL
James, 1876-82
TITUS
John, 1863-37, 39, 40
TOD-TODD
Judge, June 1858-25, 44; May 1859-17; 1864-30
Mr., Sept. 1860-43
Andrew I., 1876-86
David, 1864-106
Fanny, 1868-87
George (Esquire), June 1858-24; Nov. 1858-28; Mar. 1860-30; 1865-48; 1870-86; 1878-18
Henry, Nov. 1858-41; 1862-2; 1864-123
Isaac, Nov. 1859-41; 1863-6; 1865-92; 1868-9, 37, 38, 41; 1874-86
K., 1874-38
TOD-TODD continued
Kneeland, Nov. 1859-41; Mar. 1860-27; 1862-3; 1865-92; 1868-37, 41; 1874-86
Moses (Mrs.), 1874-36
Sala, Mar. 1860-27
Saloma (Mrs. Sala Todd), Mar. 1860-27
Seth, 1863-5
W., 1868-58
Woodward, Nov. 1859-39; 1868-39, 58; 1874-36
TOLAND
J. F. (Col.), 1876-85
John T. (Col.), 1876-84
TOLLS
Jared, Mar. 1860-22; 1863-50
TOMLINSON
Mrs., 1874-6
Charlotte, Nov. 1859-41
TOMLSON
Lucius, Nov. 1859-41; 1863-6; 1865-92; 1868-40, 58
TOMS
John, 1866-88
TOPP
John, Nov. 1858-37
TOPPIN
Judge, May 1859-19
TOW
John, 1874-60
TOWER
Delly (Mrs. Reuben Tower), 1868-83
Reuben, 1868-83; 1870-34
TOWN
J. E., 1865-92
John, 1870-24
Salem, 1878-28
Sophia Hendryx (Mrs. John Town), 1870-24
TOWNE
S. P., 1870-8
TOWNSEND
_____ Fancher (Mrs. Hiram Townsend), 1864-73
Miss (Mrs. Pitt Cooke), 1867-115
Miss (Mrs. John Sampson), 1870-22
Mr., 1867-89; 1868-50
Secretary, 1864-109
Abram, Sept. 1860-15
Authur K., 1867-64
Caddie, 1867-64
Deborah (Mrs. John Jackson), Mar. 1860-23
Gamaliel G., 1864-53; 1865-50; 1870-22
H., 1863-56, 59; 1865-1
Harriet, 1867-64
Hiram, 1863-54; 1864-73; 1876-35, 36
Hosea, 1863-53, 54, 55, 58; 1864-2, 5, 7, 73; 1865-92; 1866-1; 1870-8, 9, 19, 50; 1874-30, 37; 1876-32, 35
John, 1865-92; 1870-34
K. (Mrs.), 1867-90
Kneeland, Mar. 1860-4, 10; Sept. 1860-6; 1864-24, 25; 1867-61, 64, 90; 1876-90
Kneeland (Mrs.), 1867-61, 62, 63, 64
L., 1865-92
Marium Sampson (Mrs. Gamalia Townsend), 1870-22
Mary Ann (Mrs. George Wood), 1867-64

TOWNSEND continued
N. S., 1876-125
Sophia, 1864-7; 1876-4
Sophia Case (Mrs. Hosea Townsend), 1863-58
Stella (Mrs. Lansford Wood), Mar. 1860-23
William, Mar. 1859-20, 21; Mar. 1860-9, 10; 1866-55, 56; 1867-65, 82, 114, 115; 1868-50; 1878-25, 26
TOWSON
Capt., 1870-112
TRACY
Dr., 1865-123
Abel, 1858-39, 41
Eunice (Mrs. Isaac P. Case), 1864-114, 116
Uriah, 1870-77
TRAUB
Louis, 1861-15
TRAUGER
Henry, 1878-5
TRAUX
Ed, 1876-35
TRAVERSE
William, (Capt.), 1868-112
TRAVIS
John N., 1876-77
Joseph, 1874-105
TRAXEL
Abraham, 1863-73
TREADWELL
John (Hon.), 1862-35;1863-96
TREAT
_____ Burrell (Mrs. Joseph Treat), 1864-103
J., 1868-71
Joseph (Rev.), Nov. 1859-12, 33, 40; Sept. 1860-6; 1864-4, 55, 103, 104, 105; 1867-28; 1878-28
Lucy Pelton (Mrs. William Treat), Mar. 1860-25
William, Mar. 1860-25; 1876-111
TRESSY
Julian, 1874-47
TRIMBLE
Allen (Gov.), 1864-105, 106; 1867-86; 1876-112
TRIMMER
Mrs., 1876-110, 111
Edwin (Mrs.), 1874-23
Edwin, 1874-60
Isaac, 1874-23; 1876-110
James R., Mar. 1860-42; 1865-92
L. E. (Mrs.), 1865-92
TRINDER
Hawks M., 1876-33
TROOP
E. T., June 1858-37
TROUG
Franklin, 1876-83
TROUTMAN
Elias, 1870-113
TROVE
Peter, 1867-94
TROWBRIDGE
Stephen, Mar. 1860-30
Thomas, 1870-77, 78
TRUAX
Ed, 1876-35
TRUMBULL
Benon, 1868-11
H. Clay, 1866-103
J. H., 1863-97
J. Hammond (Hon.), 1863-5, 30
Jonathan, 1868-3; 1870-80; 1878-96
TRUXEL
Mr., Mar. 1859-11
Mary Brownbecker (Mrs. William Truxel), Mar. 1860-25
William, Mar. 1860-25
TRYON
Lydia (Mrs. Stephen Stilwell), 1865-53
TUCK
John, 1868-11
TUCKER
Capt., Mar. 1859-31
Elder, 1862-29
Family, 1865-22
Alden, 1865-22
E. W., 1876-70
Electa, 1865-22
Emily (Mrs. Worthington Wood), 1865-23
Henry, 1862-27
Hope Sr., 1865-12, 22, 23
J. A., 1866-95
John, Mar. 1860-1
Joseph, 1862-27
Lucy (Mrs. R. H. Rogers), 1865-22
Orange, 1865-23
Roxy (Mrs. Truman Smith), 1865-22
Salmon, 1865-22
Sarah, 1874-23
Thomas, 1864-11
William, 1867-12
TULLER
Artemadores, 1863-70; 1867-112; 1878-31
Harry, 1878-31
Orle, 1863-70
TULLIDGE
Henry (Rev.), 1876-53
TUMAN
Joseph, 1874-59
TUPPER
Judge, 1870-62
Mr., Nov. 1859-10
Amalen (Major), 1866-92
Benjamin, 1868-23
C. C., 1865-52
Charles, 1876-86
Charles C., Mar. 1860-21, 24; 1865-45, 52
Edward W. (Gen.), 1866-92
Emily Johnson (Mrs. Charles C. Tupper), Mar. 1860-24
Isaac, Mar. 1860-14
M. F., 1868-8
TURNBULL
Benjamin, Mar. 1859-48
TURNER
Dr., 1866-85
Gen., 1874-71
Mr., 1870-102
Aaron, 1876-35
Asa, 1870-102
B. D., Sept. 1860-4

TURNER continued
George, 1870-5; 1874-31
Grace (Mrs. Samuel Prentiss), 1868-94
John, Mar. 1860-20
John B., 1865-104
Thomas J., 1865-104
TURREY
A. S., 1870-102
TURTELOT
Mr., Mar. 1859-19
TUTCHET
Samuel, 1864-109; 1868-46
TUTTLE
Almira (Mrs. Alvin Bly), 1867-87
Anson, 1864-5
D. H., Mar. 1859-23; 1878-26
E. D. R. (Mrs.), 1865-92
Freeman A., 1876-77
Hudson, 1865-92
Sarah (Mrs. Tuttle) (Mrs. Seth Brown), 1864-30
TWEEDNEY
Robert H., 1876-84
TWEEDY
Samuel, 1868-96
TWISS
Loran, 1874-59
TWITCHELL
Sally (Mrs. Bela Brenson), Nov. 1859-3
TYLER
Mrs., Nov. 1859-3
President, 1864-15
Abijah, 1863-69
Asa, 1864-50
Asahel, 1863-69
H. P., 1876-127
Jane Cowell (Mrs. Asa Tyler), 1864-50
Jeab, 1866-34
TIMS
Mr., 1864-109
TYRON
William (Major General), June 1858-20

UMBERFIELD
Thomas, 1865-32
UNDERHILL
_____ Johnson (Mrs. David Underhill), Sept. 1860-42
Mr., May 1859-16, 19, 20; 1862-85; 1876-3
Abram, Sept. 1860-37
Aurelia, Sept. 1860-44
Aurelia (Mrs. A. W. Hulett), Sept. 1860-45
Daniel, Sept. 1860-40
David (Major) (Dr.), Mar. 1859-37, 39, 45; May 1859-19, 26, 27, 31; Nov. 1859-10, 25, 45; Mar. 1860-48; Sept. 1860-2, 37, 38, 39, 40, 41, 42, 43, 44, 45; 1862-10, 30; 1864-22, 23, 27, 28, 32, 87, 88; 1867-65, 66, 68, 86; 1874-36, 84, 88; 1876-110

UNDERHILL continued
David Jr., Sept. 1860-45; 1862-10
David II, Sept. 1860-42
Harriet (Mrs. Nathan Streng), Nov. 1859-10, 12; Mar. 1860-24; Sept. 1860-45; 1867-65
Harriet (Mrs. David Underhill), Sept. 1860-41
Isaac, Mar. 1859-37; May 1859-26; Sept. 1860-37, 39, 40, 42, 43, 44, 45; 1862-8; 1863-4; 1864-22; 1865-93; 1867-8, 65; 1874-30, 36, 37, 88; 1876-16; 1878-1
J., 1865-7
James, Sept. 1860-37
Jasper, Mar. 1859-37, 39; Sept. 1860-40, 42; 1862-10
Jeremiah, Sept. 1860-40
Laura, 1874-36, 93
Louisa, Sept. 1860-40, 44
Louisa (Mrs. A. B. Beverstock), Sept. 1860-45
Mary, Sept. 1860-40
Mary (Mrs. J. A. Jennings), Sept. 1860-45
Mercy, Sept. 1860-45
Thirza (Mrs. Horace Morse), Sept. 1860-45
UNDERWOOD
Pleasant, 1878-62
UPP
Elizabeth (Mrs. Jonathan Creninger), 1864-63
Hannah, 1864-63
Jacob, 1864-63, 65
Phillip, 1864-63, 64, 65
UPSON
Debrah M., 1876-127
Delight (Mrs. Moses Todd), 1874-36
Freeleve (Mrs. James Smith), 1867-40
UTLEY
Uriah (Mrs. Oliver Pearl), 1862-26
UTTER
Joseph, Mar. 1860-30

VAIL
A. (Mrs.), 1874-3
David, 1866-95
Elmira, 1868-87
VAN BENSCHOTEN
D. (Mrs.), 1876-5
VAN BENSCHOTER
Daniel, 1863-73
Jeremiah, Sept. 1860-27; 1863-72, 73
William, 1863-72, 73
VANBUREN
_____, 1867-45, 46, 47
Martin (Pres.), 1861-13; 1865-105; 1870-54
VAN BUSKIRK
John, 1876-86
VANCE
General, 1863-59; 1866-108
Mr., 1863-66
Abagail, 1876-23

VANCE continued
Abagail Ward (Mrs. Vance), 1863-66
Joseph, 1864-106
Joseph (Gov.), 1876-112
Samuel (Judge), 1865-74
Samuel C., 1870-108
VANCISE
Charles, 1876-69
VANCLEVE
L. F. (Rev.), 1866-110
VAN DEUSEN-VAN DEUZEN-VAN DUZEN
Mr., 1863-53
Mrs., 1863-53
Hannah (Mrs. Nathan Canada), Mar. 1860-24; 1863-55
Margaret, June 1858-44; 1863-57, 58; 1876-35
VANDEVER-VANDEVERS
Mr., June 1858-45
Henry, June 1858-45; Nov. 1858-23; May 1859-24
VANE
Henry (Sir), 1870-110
VANEST
Jane (Mrs. Dence Realye), Mar. 1860-24
VANFLET
Daniel, 1865-93
VANFLEET
Daniel, Mar. 1859-23
VAN HORN
John, 1870-113
William D., Mar. 1860-42
William H., 1878-75
VAN HUYS
Isaac, 1870-108
VANKOOP
Abigail, Sept. 1860-23
VANMETER
Maria, 1866-87
VAN NESS
Catherine (Mrs. Simeon C. Carpenter) 1874-10
James, Sept. 1860-15; 1870-3
Peter, Mar. 1860-22; 1863-90
VANORMAN
Senith (Mrs. Jacob Cummins), Mar. 1860-23
VAN NOSDALE
Capt., 1864-56
VAN RANSAELLER
_____, 1876-106
VAN RENSSELAER
Elizabeth (Mrs. J. W. Wickham), 1876-27
Schuyler, Mar. 1860-14; 1864-28, 29; 1866-36; 1868-81; 1876-27, 28
VAN SCIVER
S.T.A., 1876-17, 127
VAN TASSAL
O. H., 1867-84; 1874-23
VAN TINE
A. C., 1878-25
Alfred C., 1874-61, 75
James, June 1858-37, 39, 40; Mar. 1860-26
Willard, Mar. 1860-43
VAN TRUMP
Peter, 1864-106
Philadelphus, 1864-106
VAN VECHTSEN
Mr., May 1859-37
VAN VECHTEN
_____ Kinsley (Mrs. Van Vechten), 1870-26
Dr., 1870-26
VAN VIEHTEN
D. D., 1868-99
VAN VRANKEN
Garrett, 1864-53
Mary (Mrs. Garrett Van Vranken), 1864-53
Mary (Mrs. Harvey Sackett), 1864-53
VAN WAGGONER
J. M., 1867-28
VAN WURMER
Henry, 1858-36
VARNUM
James M., 1870-62
James Mitchell, 1862-51
VAUGHAN
J. M., 1876-2
J. R., 1863-4
John C., 1865-110, 111
VENABLE
W. H., 1870-50
VETTER
John (Rev.), 1868-6
VICTOR
O. J., 1861-14
VINCENT
H. B., 1868-11
Harry, 1868-87
VINING
Mr., 1867-107
Alfred J., 1876-83
VINSON
George, Nov. 1858-26
VINTON
Alexander, 1866-103
Francis, 1866-103
Samuel F., 1864-106
VON GERSDORFF
Lady, 1862-55
VREDENBURGH
J. V., June 1858-36, 39
John V., May 1859-22; 1876-49, 55, 57, 58
John (Mrs.), 1876-55
VROMAN
Deacon, Nov. 1859-18
VROOMAN
Maria, 1868-80
Martin, Nov. 1859-16, 18; 1866-35, 40

WADDEL-WADDLE
Charles, Nov. 1859-37; 1878-92
Christopher W., 1876-83
WADE
_____ (Mrs. Oliver Wade), 1866-88
David E., 1866-88; 1870-108
WADSWORTH
Capt., 1878-33

WADSWORTH continued
General, 1861-42; 1864-13; 1867-63; 1870-99
Elijah (Major General), June 1858-23; Sept. 1860-35, 36; 1870-77; 1878-17, 80, 86
F., Sept. 1860-2
Frederick, Sept. 1860-37
Jeremiah (Col.), 1863-95
L., 1865-93
T. W., 1865-110
WAGER
Milo H., 1874-61, 75
WAGONER
_____, Mar. 1859-6
WAGGONER
C. (Mrs.), 1867-90
Clark, 1861-8, 14, 16; 1862-93; 1865-93; 1866-59; 1867-90
Isabel Hunter (Mrs. Ralph Waggoner), 1866-59
Israel, Nov. 1858-3; June 1865-93; 1866-59; 1867-89
J. C., 1867-73
Julia R. Felt (Mrs. J. C. Waggoner), 1867-73
Lucretia Buck Lake (Mrs. Israel Waggoner), Nov. 1858-3; 1863-4; 1866-59; 1867-89
Mary, 1866-59
Ralph, 1866-59
Sylvia Roberts (Mrs. Clark Waggoner), 1866-59
William, 1874-60
WAIT-WAITE
Albert H., 1874-60
Ezra R., 1863-3; 1867-75; 1874-59
M. R. (Hon.), 1865-64
Thomas, 1876-28
Thomas J., 1865-108, 109
WAKEFIELD
Mrs., Mar. 1860-30
A. C. (Mrs.), 1874-76
Jesup, June 1858-25
WAKELEY
Lyman, 1876-28
WAKEMAN
_____, 1876-112; 1878-102
Andrew, Sept. 1860-23
Jessup, Nov. 1859-19, 38; Sept. 1860-23, 30, 32; 1865-29; 1868-29
John, 1864-40
Joseph, June 1858-22; 1878-14
WALBRIDGE
Hiram (Gov.), 1865-64, 65
John, 1866-74
WALCOTT
Fayette, 1876-83
WALDO
Daniel (Rev.), 1865-117
M., 1867-28
S. H. (Rev.), 1876-70
WALDON
Emily, 1865-93
WALDRON
Mr., 1876-1, 2
WALDRON continued
Elnathan J., 1862-6; 1863-8, 49; 1865-93; 1866-2; 1870-52; 1874-2, 12, 20, 30, 37, 119; 1876-10, 16; 1878-1, 2
Emily, 1863-4
F. R., 1870-12
J., Mar. 1860-11; 1868-49
J. E., 1863-98
Joseph, 1863-51; 1868-49
Joseph Jr., 1863-51
Julia A., 1868-87
S. G., 1867-75
Seymour, 1874-59
Stephen, 1863-51
Sylvester, 1863-51; 1870-52
WALES
Mary F. C. (Mrs. Samuel T. Worcestor), 1874-106
WALKER
_____ (Mrs. Elsworth Burnham), 1862-24
Capt., 1866-36
Mr., 1862-29; 1866-91; 1867-27; 1868-66; 1870-107, 108
A. B., 1870-51
Abner, Mar. 1860-21
Albert, 1874-61
Almena (Mrs. Hall), 1862-24
Almira (Mrs. Harlew Case), 1863-85
Augustus (Capt.), 1866-56; 1876-24
Benjamin, 1862-24
Betsey, 1865-93
Betsey Summers (Mrs. Samuel Walker), Nov. 1858-43
C. S., 1866-87
Charles, 1865-104
David, 1862-24
Eliza (Mrs. Ellis), 1862-24
George, 1862-24
George R., 1865-93; 1867-8; 1876-120
H. C. (Deacon), 1868-72
Hannah Burgess (Mrs. David Walker), 1862-24
Harry, 1862-24
J. B. (Rev.), 1870-5, 6
James, 1870-108
James B. (Rev.), May 1859-1; Mar. 1860-1; 1862-87; 1865-93
John, 1862-24; 1866-53
Julius, 1862-24
Leicester, Mar. 1859-21; 1876-120
Lester, 1876-12
Norman, 1862-24
Peter, Sept. 1860-33
Plyna (Mrs. Brown), Sept. 1860-33, 34
Sallie Ann, 1878-28
Samuel, Mar. 1859-21; Sept. 1860-16; 1865-93; 1878-28
William, 1863-21
WALLACE
_____ (Mrs. Jacob Burnet), 1865-121
Miss, 1864-118
Ann (Mrs. Martin Baum), 1865-121
Betsey Ceffin (Mrs. Samuel Wallace), 1870-54

WALLACE continued
Charles G., 1864-118
David G. (Dr.), 1864-118
D. R., 1876-78
John, 1870-113
Robert, 1865-121
Robert (Col.), Mar. 1860-2
Samuel, 1870-54
William, 1876-82
WALLING
Thomas, 1863-61; 1864-47
WALLS
M. I., 1868-87
WALLWORTH
John (Hon.), 1861-2
WALSH
George R., 1876-83
WALSWORTH
David, 1874-99
WALTER
Mr., 1868-71
Rev. Mr., 1874-85
Abisha W., 1874-59, 74
J. H. (Rev.), 1867-90; 1868-69; 1870-1
Valentine, 1876-83
WALWORTH
Judge, May 1859-45; 1866-70
Mr., 1863-68
A. W., Nov. 1858-2, 34
John (Hon.), Nov. 1858-2, 29, 34, 36; Nov. 1859-22; Sept. 1860-4
WARD
Capt., 1870-101
Mr., May 1859-31; Mar. 1860-30; 1864-32; 1867-67; 1868-60; 1874-13; 1876-10
Abagail (Mrs. Vance), 1863-66
Andrew, 1863-95
Artemus, 1866-9[illegible]
Austin, May 1859-33; 1868-76, 83
Betsy (Mrs. Isaac Collins), May 1859-45
Cenith Russell (Mrs. Jared Ward), Mar. 1860-24
Daniel, May 1859-33; 1861-23; 1868-76, 84; 1876-121
Douglass, 1863-66
Edmund, 1863-41
Elam, Mar. 1859-1; May 1859-45; 1876-21
Elisa G. (Mrs. Oran Follett), 1876-121
Gerard (Col.), Nov. 1858-6
H. P., (Rev.), 1878-27
Hiram, 1876-35
I., 1861-1
Ira, Mar. 1860-37
Isaac, 1867-67
J., 1863-6
Jared, June 1858-43; Nov. 1858-27, 44; Mar. 1859-1; May 1859-45; Nov. 1859-22, 25; Mar. 1860-24; Sept. 1860-4; 1863-66; 1865-50; 1868-60; 1870-85; 1874-11; 1876-21, 85; 1878-16
Jared, 1863-66
Jerry, 1862-82
John, Sept. 1860-14
Jonathan, 1861-23; 1865-93; 1870-13
Joseph, 1876-11
Lucy (Mrs. J. W. Sprague), 1863-66
Martha, 1876-121
Nathan, 1866-92
WARD continued
Noah P., Sept. 1860-42
Polly (Mrs. Uriah Hawley), 1861-23
Rheda, May 1859-45
Rheda (Mrs. Eli Hubbard) Mar. 1860-23
Ruggles, 1863-66
Sally, May 1859-45
Samuel T., 1876-82
Tamar Ruggles (Mrs. Jared Ward), 1863-66
Vetty Green (Mrs. Austin Ward), 1868-83
William J., 1876-82
Winthrop H., 1863-66
WARE
Robert B., 1868-87
WARNER
Dr., 1874-55
Mr., 1865-79
Alansen, 1876-127
E., 1878-25
E. Y. (Rev.), 1866-7, 78; 1868-9, 11, 13
Eben, 1868-41
Ebenezer, 1868-30
Henry, Mar. 1860-29
John, 1868-11
Jonathen, 1867-95
Martha (Mrs. Miner M. Crandle), Mar. 1860-25
Mary, 1876-127
Nahum, Nov. 1858-16
Sally Ann, 1876-127
Seth, Sept. 1860-37
WARNESS
Mr., 1865-79
WARREN
Charles, 1876-83
D., June 1858-30
Daniel, Mar. 1859-41; Sept. 1860-40; 1862-9; 1865-49
Ebenezer R., 1876-83
George G., 1874-61
John C. (Dr.), 1868-115
Richard, Mar. 1860-20
WARRINER
Capt., 1866-116
WARWICK
Earl of, 1862-31; 1867-14
WARWOOD
C., 1864-118
WASHBURN
_____ (Mrs. Alansen Sutton), 1864-74
_____ Carpenter (Mrs. Joseph Washburn), 1864-72
_____ Webster (Mrs. James Washburn), Nov. 1858-43
Mr., 1864-77; 1870-30
Amasa, 1863-87; 1866-95
Amasen, Nov. 1858-41, 43; 1863-75, 76, 78; 1865-93
Amasen Jr., Nov. 1858-44
B. S., 1863-82
Benjamin, June 1858-40; Mar. 1860-25; 1864-75, 78; 1874-89; 1876-61
Benjamin S., June 1858-40, 43
Betsy (Mrs. James Mordoff), Nov.1858-43
Charles, Nov. 1858-43
Charlette Hooker (Mrs. Benjamin Washburn), Mar. 1860-25

WASHBURN continued
David L, Nov.1858-40, 43
Deaborah Sutton (Mrs. Joseph C. Washburn), 1864-78
Delpha (Mrs. John Harrison), Nov. 1858-43
George, 1865-93
H. G., 1876-10, 16; 1876-10, 16; 1878-2
H. G. (Mrs.), 1876-5
Henry, 1864-70, 72, 78
Henry G., 1864-72; 1868-87; 1876-10, 61
Irene Beardsley (Mrs. David L. Washburn), Nov. 1858-40, 43
J. C., 1870-34
James, Nov. 1858-43; 1864-78
Joseph, 1864-72, 74, 78, 80, 81; 1868-83
Joseph C., 1864-78
Marietta (Mrs. Benajah Butler) Nov. 1858-43
Phebe Ann (Mrs. Wakeman J. Beach), 1864-50, 53
S. (Mrs. Henry Washburn), 1864-70
Sallie Whitney (Mrs. Amasen Washburn), Nov. 1858-43
Sally Ball (Mrs. Charles Washburn), Nov. 1858-43
Samuel, Mar. 1860-21; 1863-73
Sarah, 1874-109
Sarah Brobeck (Mrs. Benjamin S. Washburn), Nov. 1858-43
Wallace, 1865-93
Wheeler, Nov. 1858-43; 1863-75
WASHBURNE
Mr., 1864-40
WASHINGTON
George, (Pres.), Sept. 1860-22, 29; 1862-2; 1864-3; 1865-121; 1866-9, 89, 98; 1867-98, 104; 1868-62; 1870-79
Henry G., 1874-100
WASLICK
William, Nov. 1859-16
WASSON
Mr., 1865-73
WATERBURY
Charles, 1870-69; 1874-1, 5; 1876-4, 30
Lewis, 1878-32
Talmage, 1878-33, 34
WATERS
Bevell, 1870-78
WATKINS
Father, 1870-90
Eber, Mar. 1859-19; 1865-12
Hannah (Mrs. Bancroft), Mar. 1859-19; 1868-45
Lydia, 1878-28
Oliver, 1868-44
William, Mar. 1859-19; 1865-12, 15, 49, 64; 1868-44
WATROS-WATROUS
_____ Strong (Mrs. William W. Watros), 1868-75
Daniel, May 1859-20; 1878-1
Joseph N., 1868-75
Nancy, 1868-87
Nancy Streng (Mrs. William W. Watreus), Mar. 1860-25
W. W., 1868-74, 83
William, May 1859-33
WATROS continued
William W., May 1859-33; Mar. 1860-25; 1868-74, 75, 83
WATSON
Rev. Dr., Nov. 1859-48
G. W. (Rev.), 1876-53
George (Rev.), 1876-53
John, 1870-98
WATTS
Elizabeth (Mrs. Ephraim Garrison), 1865-33
John, 1865-33
WAUGH
Delia M., 1868-87
E. C. M., Mar. 1860-30
Gideon, 1868-9; 1870-40, 41; 1874-6
L. (Rev.), 1868-8
Lawson, 1868-87
M. S. (Mrs.), 1874-6
Mindwell (Mrs.), 1868-9, 87; 1874-6
Mindwell Shepard (Mrs. Gideon Waugh), 1870-41
Minerva Miner (Mrs. Gideon Waugh), 1870-41
WAY
Judge, 1867-7; 1868-4
WAYNE
Anthony (Gen.), June 1858-18; Sept. 1860-20, 38; Sept. 1861-39, 41; 1862-88, 89; 1866-60, 119; 1867-71; 1870-92; 1874-50
E. S. (Dr.), 1870-76
WEATHERLOW
Caroline (Mrs. Lyman Case), 1862-25; 1863-85
John, Nov. 1858-34, 36; 1862-25
Lucy (Mrs. A. Hollister), 1862-25
Sally (Mrs. Jeremiah Benschoter), 1862-13
Samuel, 1862-25
William, 1862-25
WEAVER
Edward, 1876-84
Henry, 1864-65
WEBB
Mr., 1863-6
Adeniram, 1874-44
Betsey Stanton (Mrs. Thomas D. Webb), 1865-29
David, 1865-93
Ephraim, May 1859-24
J. D., 1870-101
Mary Jane, Mar. 1860-31
Reuben, 1874-44
Thomas D., June 1858-21, 24; 1864-6, 9, 110; 1865-29, 30
W. S., 1863-41
WEBBER
George N., 1866-103
James M., 1876-83
John, 1870-21
R. R., 1866-2
WEBER
Mr., Sept. 1860-17
George, 1874-61

WEBSTER
Mr., Nov. 1858-43
Prof., 1864-3
Daniel, 1867-2
George A., 1874-59
J. D., 1865-110
Lucy (Mrs. James Smith), 1867-40
Noah, 1868-11
S. B. (Mrs.), 1874-99
Warren Z., 1876-86
WEDDELL
P. M., 1866-53
WEDGE
H. D., 1865-93
WEED
Thurlow, 1874-47
W., June 1858-37
WEEDEN
_____ Falley (Mrs. John Weeden), 1867-92
John, June 1858-31; Nov. 1858-1; Mar. 1859-16; 1862-4, 78, 79; 1867-92, 107
Sophia Stevens (Mrs. John Weeden), 1862-79
WEEKS
Betsy (Mrs. George H. Weedruff), 1865-52
Betsey Kennely Heskins, 1865-52
C. H., 1874-6
Ella, 1865-93
H. H., 1874-6
Israel, 1864-42
Robert E., 1865-93
William, 1868-87
William R. (Rev.), 1876-103
Zadeck, 1865-52; 1870-36
WEIRLEY
Dr., 1874-55
WEISER
Conrad, 1862-60
WEISS
Victor, 1874-59
WELCH
Mr., 1870-113
_____ Bubbell (Mrs. Ebenezer Welech), 1864-31
Alexander C., 1870-51
Caleb, 1865-93
Ebenezer, 1864-31
Fanny, 1870-34
John, Mar. 1859-39, 42; 1864-22; 1870-77
Peggy, Mar. 1859-42
Sally, 1876-127
Samuel R., 1876-82
WELD
Thomas (Rev.), 1865-98
WELFORD
Hannah, 1865-93
WELL
Jacob, 1876-84
WELLER
John B., 1864-106
WELLMAN
Abraham, 1876-28
WELLS
_____ Durand (Mrs. Charles Wells), Nov. 1858-43
_____ Smith (Mrs. Philo Wells), Nov. 1858-42
Col., 1874-69
Lt., 1866-57
Mr., 1874-8, 29; 1878-4, 93
Rev. Mr., 1865-5
Ann, 1868-87
Charles, Nov. 1858-41, 43
D. E. (Rev.), 1868-95
Eliza (Mrs. Thomas B. Abel), Nov. 1858-42
Emeline, Nov. 1858-42
Ezra, Mar. 1859-16
Francis J., 1868-87
George, Nov. 1858-42; 1870-30; 1876-84
Hannah Lewis (Mrs. Philo Wells), Nov. 1858-42
Ira D., 1874-59, 74
Lemuel, Nov. 1858-41, 42, 43
Lewis, Nov. 1858-42; 1866-4; 1874-20, 30
Lucy (Mrs. David Sutton), Mar. 1860-24
N. M., 1862-89
Philo, Nov. 1858-1, 41, 42, 43; Mar. 1860-25; 1862-2; 1863-73, 87; 1865-3, 94; 1866-4, 6; 1870-8, 9, 30, 50; 1874-1, 2, 4, 7, 12, 23, 37; 1876-10, 12, 16; 1878-1, 21
Robert, Nov. 1858-41, 43; 1863-73
Samuel, 1868-87
Sarah Ann, 1868-87
Wheeler, Nov. 1858-42
William W., 1876-82
WELLSMAN
Mary H., 1866-87
WENTWORTH
_____, 1867-91, 92
_____, Sept. 1860-22
Josiah, Sept. 1860-23
WENTZ
Jacob, 1874-60
WERDEN
Col., 1870-90
WESLEY
Charles, 1862-60
John, 1862-56; 1864-20
WESSELLS
_____ Griswold (Mrs. Henry W. Wessells), 1870-77
Henry W. (Gen.), 1870-77
Lawrence, 1870-77
WEST
Mrs., 1876-5
A. K., 1870-34
Benjamin, Nov. 1859-46
Betsey Fitch (Mrs. William West), 1864-85
Daniel G., 1874-60
E. W., 1863-65
Edmund, 1876-100
Esther, 1876-103
Francis, 1863-4
Frederick E., 1876-82
John, 1876-106
Phebe W., 1864-45
Sallie, 1876-5

WEST continued
Samuel, 1866-87
T. D., 1870-34
W. A., 1876-36
W. G., 1865-93
W. T., 1870-34
William, 1864-85
WESTERVELT
William, 1867-28
WESTFALL
Harvey, Mar. 1859-16
WESTHICH
Mr., 1862-29
WESTLAKE
Charles, Mar. 1860-42
William, May 1859-25; 1878-92
WESTON
Salmon, 1864-53, 56
WETHERELL
W. W., 1878-25
WETMORE
Judge, 1874-39
Edwin, 1876-76
H., 1876-76
William, June 1858-24; 1874-38; 1878-18
WETHERBY
J. K., 1866-86
Polly (Mrs. Roger Fox), 1870-31
Sarah C., 1866-87
WETZEL
_____, 1874-50
Lewis, 1868-26
WHEAT
Mr., June 1858-45; Nov. 1859-7
WHEATON
Charles, Mar. 1860-15
S. W., 1865-93
WHEDON
Benjamin (Deacon), 1865-70
WHEELER
_____ Laylin (Mrs. Edward Wheeler), 1862-84
_____ Pinney (Mrs. Johnsen Wheeler), 1868-53
_____ Stiles (Mrs. Thomas Wheeler), 1868-48
_____ Stiles (Mrs. John Wheeler), 1868-48
Mr., Mar. 1860-21, 22, 23; 1878-26, 92
Rev., 1863-14
Aaron, 1870-103; 1874-44
Angeline, Nov. 1859-37
Asa, June 1858-45; Nov. 1858-22; May 1859-24, 25; 1865-93; 1868-52; 1874-6
Beneni, 1867-3
C. S., 1867-79
Calvin, 1865-93
Caroline (Mrs. Justus Wheeler), Mar. 1860-28
Caroline L, Nov. 1859-37
Edward (Col.), Nov. 1859-35, 37; 1862-84, 85
Effie Lucinda, Nov. 1859-37
Elizabeth, Nov. 1859-37
Elizabeth (Mrs. Noah Wheeler II), 1865-65
WHEELER continued
Harriet, Nov. 1859-37
Huldah, 1865-93
J., 1865-62, 63
Jane Robinson (Mrs. Wheeler), 1864-8
Joel, Nov. 1859-41
John, Nov. 1859-37; 1863-70; 1865-93; 1868-48, 53, 54; 1876-36, 44, 109; 1878-30
John (Elder), Nov. 1858-17, 18; Mar. 1860-39; 1862-4, 5; 1863-4; 1864-68; 1867-3, 4
John E., 1865-102, 108
John H., 1865-93
Johnsen, 1868-10, 48, 53, 87; 1874-10, 93; 1876-61
Joseph D., Nov. 1859-37
Justus, Mar. 1860-28
Levi, Nov. 1859-37
Merrisen, Nov. 1859-37
O. H., 1863-4
Oliver, 1868-53, 54
Polly (Mrs. Selden Barnes), 1874-5
Ruth (Mrs. John Wheeler), 1868-48
S. B., 1862-7
Sally Burr (Mrs. Johnsen Wheeler), 1868-48
Samuel, 1868-48
Sarah Ann, Nov. 1859-37
Thomas, 1868-48
William P., 1874-61, 75
WHEELOCK
E. (Father), 1874-17
Elizabeth, 1874-17
L. P., 1870-34
Theodora, 1874-17
WHETSTONE
John, 1866-87
WHIPPLE
_____ Mixer (Mrs. Whipple), 1870-102
Commodore, 1866-92
Widow, 1870-102
James, 1878-98
WHITAKER
Mr., Nov. 1859-10
WHITCOMB
Asa, 1862-3
Hannah, 1868-6
WHITE
_____ (M.D.), Mar. 1859-21
Mr., 1862-18; 1867-116; 1868-59
Bishop, 1874-45
A. G. (Dr.), 1862-93
Anna (Mrs.), 1864-8
Avander, 1876-82
C. C. (Dr.), 1870-116
Crawford, 1876-10
Daniel, 1868-99
David, 1864-40; 1876-82
Ebenezer, 1865-93
Helen Martin (Mrs. Union White), 1868-99
Henry, 1864-109
Jacob, 1870-108
James, May 1859-24; 1863-52; 1870-52
Jane (Mrs. Nathan Miner), Mar. 1860-25
John, 1865-93; 1868-98; 1876-54
John S., 1865-109

WHITE continued
John W., 1876-82
Joseph (Dr.), 1870-13
Laura F. Hine (Mrs. White), 1862-18
Lewis, 1874-59
Lucy Matchett (Mrs. Union White), 1868-98
Lyman, 1868-99; 1870-50
M., May 1859-35, 36, 37
Maria Martin (Mrs. Union White), 1868-83, 99
Moss, June 1858-25
Perigrine, Mar. 1860-19
Resolve, Mar. 1860-20
Robert, 1863-71
S. M., 1865-93
Samuel, 1862-16; 1863-51; 1870-52; 1874-60
Susan (Mrs. William White) (Mrs. Winslew), Mar. 1860-20
T. B., 1864-74; 1868-75, 76
Union, May 1859-34, 35; 1868-13, 83, 98, 99
Thomas B., 1864-74; 1865-93
William, Mar. 1860-20; 1868-115
William Jr., Mar. 1860-20
WHITEMAN
General, 1870-101
Anne (Mrs. Truman M. Smith), 1862-20
WHITFORD
Hannah, 1870-11
William, 1865-93
WHITING
Mr., 1868-49
Benjamin, 1874-57
W. H., 1876-127
WHITLOCK
Burwell (Burrell), May 1859-20; Mar. 1860-16
WHITMAN
Emily, 1866-5
George R., 1876-3
J. J., 1865-93
M. C., Sept. 1860-21
WHITMORE
Judge, May 1859-19
A. C., 1864-45
A. E., 1864-45
Emily (Mrs.), 1874-6
George, 1866-5
Rebecca (Mrs. Jabez Deming), Mar. 1859-40
Samuel, 1874-6
WHITMOUR
Hiram, 1874-60
WHITNEY
Mrs., 1862-21
Prof., 1867-105
WHITNEY
Abel, 1874-6
George, 1862-2, 25
J. D., 1876-57, 58
Mary Cook (Mrs. Orrin Whitney), Mar. 1860-40
Orrin, Mar. 1860-40
R. N. Sept. 1860-2
Robert, Sept. 1860-20; 1878-25
Roxa (Mrs. Paul Deddridge), 1868-61
Sallie (Mrs. Amasen Washburn), Nov. 1858-43
WHITON
J. M., 1876-16; 1878-2
WHITTEN
Alvin, 1864-43; 1865-93
Berilla, 1864-43
Ceroden, 1864-43
Emma, 1864-43
Leah Snow (Mrs. Alvin Whitten), 1864-43
WHITTLESEY
Colonel, 1865-6, 7; 1874-41
Judge, 1863-13
Charles, 1861-23, 24, 25, 26
Charles (Col.), June 1858-15, 25; Nov. 1858-2; 1861-2; 1865-5; 1866-11, 41; 1867-6; 1868-4, 6; 1870-50; 1874-19
Elisha (Hon.), June 1858-13, 24, 31, 44, 47, 48; Nov. 1858-9; Mar. 1859-46; May 1859-17, 19; Sept. 1860-41; 1862-87, 90; 1864-5, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18; 1865-29; 1870-87; 1876-100; 1878-18, 103
Frederick, 1864-12
John, 1864-10
Mary Beale (Mrs. John Whittlesey), 1864-10
Mary Crocker (Mrs. Charles Whittlesey), 1861-26
Mathew, 1864-12
Polly Mygatt (Mrs. Elisha Whittlesey), 1864-11
WHYLER
John, 1868-79
WICKHAM
Judge, 1868-101
Asa, 1865-12, 14, 23; 1868-44
Charles P. Sept. 1860-2; 1861-5, 6, 7; 1862-87; 1866-1, 6, 8, 10; 1867-1, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7; 1868-2, 6, 13; 1870-1, 2; 1874-1, 12
F., 1862-7
F. A. 1861-11
Frederick, 1876-71
Frederick C., 1865-93; 1874-59
I. W., 1876-63
J. W. (Mrs.), 1876-27
John W., 1863-71; 1876-25, 27
Lucy B., 1863-4; 1866-95
W. S. (Capt.), 1874-119
WICKS
Rev. Dr., 1866-89
WIDEMAN
Mrs., 1874-51
WIDNER
Anna (Mrs. Davis Dunham), Mar. 1860-20
Margaret (Mrs. Kingsley Olds), Mar. 1860-23
Michael, Nov. 1859-8
WIERS
George, 1863-39, 40
WIGGINS
Family, 1862-28
WIGHTMAN
Samuel T., 1876-28
WILBOR-WILBER-WILBUR
Mr., 1870-12
John B., 1863-71; 1876-63
Naomi, 1876-102

WILBOR-WILBER-WILBUR continued
P., 1876-95
P. (Mrs.), 1876-13, 119
Philander, 1867-90; 1870-34; 1874-17; 1876-119
Philander H., 1876-119
Susan, 1876-119
Susan A., 1870-34; 1876-90
Susan Kellogg (Mrs. Philander Wilber), 1867-90
WILCOX
Dr., 1876-76
Mr., Nov. 1858-41; Sept. 1860-40; 1864-56; 1868-70
Emily, 1867-4
H. H., 1870-113
J., 1867-4
Mary (Mrs. Daniel Clary), 1864-32
Susan (Mrs. Joseph Moore), 1878-109
Timothy, 1870-34
WILCOXSON
_____ Collins (Mrs. David Wilcoxson), 1867-90
David, 1867-90
Levi (Mrs.), 1867-90
WILDER
Colonel, 1865-2
Henry, 1870-84
Leah (Mrs. Prince Haskell Sr.), 1864-113
Wealthy J., (Mrs. J. B. Darling), 1878-101
WILDEY
Hans Ulrich, 1870-84
John, 1870-84
WILDMAN
_____, 1878-60
A. H., 1865-93
Esra, 1876-97
F. A. (Capt.), 1867-4, 8; 1868-2; 1870-2; 1874-116
Frederick A., 1876-71, 74
H., 1878-25
Heratio, 1867-108; 1878-25
S. A., 1874-20; 1876-7; 1878-5, 37
Z., 1868-17, 18; 1870-88; 1878-23, 24
Zalmon (Hon.), June 1858-25; Mar. 1859-16, 18, 20, 21, 35; Nov. 1859-35; Mar. 1860-22; 1866-75; 1867-108; 1868-17; 1870-63, 88; 1878-23
WILES
C., 1862-5
WILGUS
Maggie, 1876-102
WILKINSON
Tribe, 1867-83
W., 1864-7
W. H., 1878-79
WILLARD
Mr., 1870-110
Brainard, 1862-41
C. A., 1866-95
WILLETT
Joseph, 1863-37, 39, 40
Sarah (Mrs. Horace Ramsdell), 1874-97
WILLEY
John W., June 1858-25
WILLIAM-WILLIAMS
Lt., 1874-66, 72
Mr., Mar. 1859-9; May 1859-31; 1868-79; 1870-99; 1874-115
Adams, 1876-14
Amanda Perry (Mrs. Williams), Mar. 1859-1
B. (Mrs.), Nov. 1858-4, 44
Benjamin, 1876-124
Benjamin H., 1874-59, 74
Caleb D., 1874-59, 74
David, 1866-95
Ebenezer (Rev.), 1866-101, 102
Edward H., 1874-59
Elisa (Mrs.), 1866-87, 95
Evan, 1876-82
Fry, 1876-87
George, 1874-59
George S., 1864-65
Gurden, Nov. 1859-11; Mar. 1860-22; 1867-112
Henrietta Colwell, 1876-47
Isaac, Mar. 1860-22
J., Mar. 1860-22; 1865-2
James, June 1858-25; Mar. 1859-41; May 1859-19, 20; Mar. 1860-14, 33, 37; 1868-79, 80, 81; 1870-43; 1874-7, 8; 114, 116; 1876-36, 39, 40, 47, 49, 58, 59; 1878-18
James (Mrs.), 1874-8, 10, 92
James B., May 1859-20; Mar. 1860-14, 37; 1865-48; 1868-81; 1874-7, 8, 10, 92, 114, 116; 1876-39, 40, 47, 49, 58, 127
Jessey, 1864-64
Joel, 1870-108
John, Nov. 1859-2, 3; Mar. 1860-36; 1866-87
John (Rev.), 1866-102
John R., 1876-75
John S., 1868-109; 1874-42
Johnathan, 1870-100, 101
Louisa, May 1859-21; 1876-46
M. J., 1866-76
Micajah T., 1870-96
Miles, 1866-87
Nancy (Mrs. Henry Andersen), 1878-97
Phineas, June 1858-39
Roger, 1867-106
Sarah, 1876-47
Sarah Matilda, 1874-116
Sephronia Clock (Mrs. Walter Williams), 1864-32
Susan, Nov. 1858-39; Sept. 1860-6
T., 1876-56
Theodore, May 1859-21; 1876-46, 56, 58, 127
Thomas, Mar. 1860-20
Thomas (Rev.), 1866-103
W., 1868-74
W. (Rev.), Nov. 1859-32; 1865-6
W. W., 1878-5
Walter, 1864-32
William, Sept. 1860-5; 1864-86
William (Rev.), 1868-70
WILLIAMSON
Col., Sept. 1860-7; 1866-119
Mr., 1862-79

WILLIAMSON continued
John, Mar. 1860-33
Samuel, 1870-50
Sophia B. (Mrs.), 1866-88
WILLING
Thomas, 1862-44
WILLIS
Ziba, 1868-80
WILLOUGHBY
Lt., 1874-66
WILNER
John L, Sept. 1860-23
WILSON-WILLSON
Capt., 1874-51
Colonel, 1874-63, 65, 73
Dr., 1870-50
Father, 1866-100
Judge, 1870-95
Mr., Mar. 1859-35; Sept. 1860-45; 1862-79
A., Mar. 1859-1; 1868-8
A. (Mrs.), 1870-34
Anson, 1874-29, 93
Betsey P., 1874-29
Charles, Sept. 1860-15
D. C., Mar. 1860-30
David, 1870-51
Eli, 1864-89
Enoch, 1870-50
Esther, 1865-93
Flaval, Mar. 1860-30
George, 1866-96
H., Mar. 1860-30
H. L., 1865-93
Hannah (Mrs. Lemon Cole), 1865-52
Isaac, May 1859-22; 1876-83
Isaac M., 1865-93; 1868-80
J., Mar. 1860-27; 1868-58
J. H., 1878-3
Jacob, 1874-111
James, June 1858-33;Mar. 1859-48; Nov. 1859-45; Mar. 1860-27; 1862-44, 81, 83; 1863-6; 1865-93; 1868-37, 39, 40, 41
James A., 1876-86
James F., Sept. 1860-22
James G., 1876-87
Jeremiah, 1866-96
John, Nov. 1859-19; 1862-3
John R., 1874-60
Joseph, May 1859-22; Sept. 1860-21
Levi, 1866-95
Livy, May 1859-22
Lucy, 1866-95
Mary Ann, 1874-111
Phebe Powers (Mrs. James Wilson), 1862-83
W. T. (Col.), 1874-72
William Duance (Gen.), 1865-108
William, 1876-83
WILT
Harrison, 1876-122
WILTSE
Samuel, 1868-66
WINCHESTER
General, 1868-25
WINCHESTER continued
Mr., 1862-3
WINEBURNER
Phillip, 1863-61
WINGUS
J., 1865-57
WINKLES
Mr., 1870-80
WINSHIP
Winn, 1870-113
WINSLOW
Mr., 1870-109
A. H. (Major), 1876-77, 81
Edward (Gov.), Mar. 1860-19; 1868-115
Edward Jr., Mar. 1860-19
Elizabeth (Mrs. Edward Winslow), Mar. 1860-19; 1868-115
Gilbert, Mar. 1860-20
John, Mar. 1860-19
Rebecca (Mrs. Aaron Fay), 1864-21; 1874-20
WINSOR
Lydia E. (Mrs. Horace Braman), 1865-11,63
WINTERS
_____, 1863-71
Christian, 1865-11
Hannah (Mrs. Nelson Taylor), 1870-44, 45
WINTHROP
Gov., 1866-92
Mr., 1865-31; 1870-110
Edward (Rev.), May 1859-23; 1876-48, 51, 52, 57;
John, June 1858-16
Josiah, 1864-57
Mary Ann, 1874-30
William, 1863-66, 67, 70; 1876-22, 24
William H., 1863-66, 67; 1874-30; 1876-22
WINTON
Artemesia Sanford (Mrs. Eli Winton), Nov. 1858-43
Eli, Nov. 1858-41, 42, 43; 1863-73
Eliza (Mrs. Col. F. Champney), Nov. 1858-43
M. S., 1863-4
Marietta, Nov. 1858-43
Montville, Nov. 1858-43
Morton, Nov. 1858-43
Olpha, Nov. 1858-43
Orlum, Nov. 1858-43
Rolsen, Nov. 1858-43
WINTWORTH
Dr., Sept. 1860-22
WIRES
Adam, 1864-28
George, 1864-28
WIRT
Mr., Nov. 1859-24; 1867-69
WITHEREL
W. D., 1876-78
WITHERELL
William D., 1876-82
WITMAN
William, 1870-87
WITMER
Americus, 1867-65

WOLCOTT-WOOLCOTT
_____ (Mrs. Pettibone), Mar. 1859-25; 1863-25
_____ (Mrs. Joseph Ramsdell), 1863-25; 1870-69
Dr., 1865-78; 1868-14
Gov., 1867-68
Mr., Mar. 1859-32; May 1859-47; 1868-14; 1870-72, 73; 1876-37
Abijah, 1878-31
Ann Eliza (Mrs. John F. Dewey), 1874-104
Anna (Mrs. W. B. Sturdevant), 1864-51
Benajah, Mar. 1859-24; 1862-23, 25; 1865-27; 1863-23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29; 1870-68, 69, 70, 74
Frederick, 1870-77
George, 1876-87
Henry, 1863-25; 1867-49
Newell, 1870-2
Reuben I., 1876-86
Selina (Mrs. John Ramsdell), Mar. 1860-24
WOLF
Magdalene, 1865-101
WOLVERTON
Mr., Nov. 1859-16; Mar. 1860-22
Amy, 1862-24
Eliza, 1862-24
Enos, 1862-24
John, 1862-24; 1876-101
Kata, 1862-24
Robert, 1862-24, 29
Silas, 1862-24; 1876-100
Stephen, Mar. 1860-22
WOLWORTH
John, June 1858-44
WONSOR
Mr., Mar. 1860-30
WOOD
Governor, 1865-63; 1874-115
Mr., Nov. 1858-27; 1864-87; 1874-92
Mrs., 1867-72; 1874-92
_____ (murdered), 1865-51; 1866-54, 55; 1867-51
Abigail, 1865-58
Abigail Gibbs (Mrs. John Wood), 1865-58
Andrew, 1862-16; 1874-35, 93
Anna, 1865-58
Benjamin, 1865-58
Bourdette, 1862-42; 1874-27; 1876-12, 113
Burnett, 1878-3
Caroline M., 1867-64
Catharine, 1865-58
Catharine Gregory (Mrs. David Wood), 1865-58
Christopher C., 1876-82
Daniel, Mar. 1860-27, 28, 29; 1865-58
Daniel Rowland, 1865-58
David, 1865-93; 1874-91
David (Major), 1865-58
David II, 1865-58
David Edwin, 1865-58
E., June 1858-45
E. R., 1876-62
Elijah, 1865-58
Ella, 1874-36
Emily Tucker (Mrs. Werthington Wood), 1865-23
WOOD continued
Ezekiel, 1868-66
Ezra, June 1858-30, 45; Nov. 1858-20, 22; May 1859-23, 24; 1863-6; 1864-87; 1865-45, 58, 98; 1868-52; 1876-34
George, 1867-64
George W., Mar. 1860-28
Hannah Ennes (Mrs. Silas Wood), 1861-26
Horace R., 1876-83
Horatio, 1870-50
J. (Mrs.), 1874-28
Jane, 1874-36
Jasper, 1862-42
Jedediah, 1870-34
John, Mar. 1860-21; 1865-43, 44, 45, 48, 49, 58; 1876-27, 32; 1878-18
John II, 1865-58
Jones, 1868-74
Joseph, 1867-2, 75; 1874-28
Lansford, Mar. 1860-23
Lemuel, 1865-58
Lucy (Mrs. Eleazer Lockwood), Mar. 1860-23; 1865-58
M. A. (Mrs.), 1878-110
Margaret, 1874-35, 36
Margaret (Mrs. James Kellogg Jr.), 1862-16
Maria Catharine, 1865-58
Mary Ann Townsend (Mrs. George Wood), 1867-64
Nancy, 1865-93; 1874-36
Nancy (Mrs. James Kellogg Jr.), 1862-16
Nancy Rowland (Mrs. Ezra Wood), 1865-58
Nathan, 1862-40; 1863-90
Nathaniel, 1865-58
Nathaniel Erastus, 1865-58
R., (Hon.), 1863-46
Rebecca Benedict (Mrs. Samuel Wood), 1865-58
Reserve, 1865-58
Reuben, 1858-25; 1864-106
Roswell, 1862-16; 1874-35, 36
Roswell Jr., 1862-22
Roxanna, 1874-6
Ruel, 1862-40
Sally, 1862-16
Sally (Mrs. Zebulen Stephensen), Mar. 1860-24
Samuel, 1865-58
Samuel Jr., 1865-58
Samuel Dr., 1865-58
Sarah, 1865-58
Sarah Cornwall (Mrs. Samuel Wood), 1865-58
Sarah P., 1868-87
Silas, 1861-23, 26
Standish, June 1858-46; 1862-40, 42
Stella Townsend (Mrs. Lansford Wood), Mar. 1860-23
Timothy, 1862-2
William Henry, 1865-58
Werthington, 1862-42; 1865-23
WOODBRIDGE
T., 1870-78
William, 1870-63
WOODCOCK
Mr., Mar. 1859-9, 11, 34; 1876-33
WOODE[illegible]
Mrs., 1864-3

WOODEN continued
J., 1865-93
WOODFORD
J. E., 1863-41
WOODMAN
Charles, Mar. 1860-31
WOODRUFF
_____ Heskins (Mrs. George H. Woodruff), 1870-36
Capt., 1867-2; 1874-15, 30, 31; 1876-8, 10
Mr., 1874-12, 23
Ared, 1874-59
Betsey Kennely Heskins Weeks, 1865-52; 1870-36
C. (Capt.), Nov. 1858-2; 1861-5; 1867-23; 1878-74
C. (Capt.), 1874-4, 10; 1876-8
C. C., 1876-16; 1878-1
C. F., 1876-70
Chauncey (Capt.), Mar. 1860-35, 36, 37, 38, 39, 42; 1865-93; 1870-12; 1874-2, 19; 1876-8, 86, 87; 1878-1
E. T., 1864-55
Edwin, 1874-101
Elisabeth, 1866-87
George, 1864-84; 1870-44
George H., June 1858-30; Nov. 1858-2; Mar. 1860-33, 36, 38, 39, 40, 41, 42, 43; 1863-4, 5, 7, 8; 1864-2, 84; 1865-52, 93; 1866-1, 67; 1867-1, 3, 4; 1868-1, 2; 1870-35, 36, 37, 38
G. M., 1865-1, 3
Hannah Burghart (Mrs. George Woodruff), 1870-36
Harry, 1876-87
Isaac, 1868-84
Jesse, Mar. 1860-36, 37, 38
Medad, Mar. 1860-37, 38, 40
Russel, Mar. 1860-37, 38, 39, 40; 1864-84
Simeon (Rev.), Nov. 1859-12
WOODS
John (Hon.), 1866-12; 1870-51
WOODWARD
_____ (Mrs. George Sheffield), Nov. 1859-9
Judge, 1868-64
Mr., 1876-53, 55
Abishai, 1876-47
Ames, Nov. 1859-9; May 1859-21; 1876-46, 47, 48, 58, 59
Gurdon, Nov. 1859-9, 14; 1876-46, 47, 118
John, 1868-11
Julianne, 1876-47
Lucy, 1876-47
Mary, 1876-47
O. P., Mar. 1859-38; 1874-110
William, Nov. 1859-9; 1866-90; 1876-46
WOODWORTH
E. C., 1866-95
WOOLCOTT (see WOLCOTT)
WOOLSEY
Mr., Mar. 1859-31; 1870-74
John M., 1864-58
WOOLSON
J. K., 1865-93
WOOLVERTON
Stephen, Nov. 1859-16; 1866-51
WOOSTER
Mrs., 1874-91
David (Col.), 1868-3
H. M., 1868-13; 1876-56
John F., 1874-104
Moses F. (Col.), 1874-90
Nathan, 1874-90, 91
Nathan (Mrs.), 1874-90
Ruth (Mrs. Manville), 1868-8
WORCESTER
Judge, 1874-107
Mrs., 1874-107
Mary F. C., 1874-106
S. T., Sept. 1860-2; 1862-86; 1874-107; 1876-58, 70, 73
Samuel F., 1876-74
Samuel T., 1865-93; 1876-58; 1874-106, 107
WORTHING
Mrs., 1874-37
WORTHINGTON
Gov., Sept. 1860-32; 1862-14; 1866-76
Benjamin, 1876-13
George, 1866-67
Stephen, Nov. 1858-27
T. (Gov.), 1868-11
Thomas, 1864-105; 1876-32
WRIGHT
_____, 1862-2, 14
_____ Kelly (Mrs. Wright), 1863-25
Gen., 1874-69
Judge, May 1859-20; 1862-85; 1864-38, 37; 1866-52, 54; 1867-68; 1876-21, 38
Miss, 1863-25
Mr., 1865-28; 1866-74; 1867-28, 76; 1868-60
Mrs., 1862-14; 1863-25; 1876-23
Sgt., May 1859-42
Alonzo, 1876-29
B. B., 1878-3
Benjamin, 1863-6; 1865-93
Charles A., 1876-78
Douglas, 1876-23
Elisur (Esq.), Nov. 1859-6
Frances, Nov. 1859-6
Frank, 1865-93
J. A., 1865-93
J. C., 1864-54
J. E. (Sgt.), 1876-86
Jabez, June 1858-24, 43, 44; Nov. 1858-27, 28; Mar. 1859-1; May 1859-46, 47; Nov. 1859-19; Mar. 1860-15; Sept. 1860-5, 6, 7, 23, 24; 1861-2; 1862-40; 1863-57, 66, 67, 69, 89, 91; 1865-24, 48; 1866-52, 74; 1870-26, 54, 87; 1876-22; 1878-16, 18
James M., 1876-84
Joel, June 1858-44
John, Mar. 1859-45; 1874-30
Lucy, 1876-23
Maria, 1876-26
Maria Meeker, 1862-2
Maria A. Parker (Mrs. Wright), 1862-14
Norman, 1876-26
Rachel C. Peag (Mrs. J. C. Wright), 1864-54
Robert (Gov.), 1868-8
Ruggles, 1876-23

WRIGHT continued
Tamen Ruggles (Mrs. Jabez Wright), June 1858-44; 1866-52
Timothy, 1865-107
Timothy (Esq.), 1865-110
S. E., 1870-50
W. H., 1863-66, 69; 1876-13, 22, 23
Winthrop H., 1865-16; 1876-22, 23
Zibey(J. P.), May 1859-16, 17
WURTS
Abram, Mar. 1860-38
WYATT
Susan, 1874-99
WYEL
F., 1867-4
WYLDE
Mrs., 1866-5
Benjamin, 1866-5
WYRICK
David, 1865-7; 1866-13, 14, 15

YALE
M. (Mrs.), 1870-2
Moses, 1868-79
YATES
John H., 1878-124
Peter, 1862-93
YEATMAN
Mr., 1870-108
Albert, 1876-81
Griffin, 1870-108
Thomas H., 1864-117
YEOMAN
Alfred, 1876-83
YETTER
Simon, 1864-65
YORK
Duke of, June 1858-16; 1862-32
A., 1870-11
A. D., 1867-4
Abraham, 1866-8, 95
Abram, 1864-62
William, Nov. 1859-46
YOUNG
_____, 1862-41
Abner, Mar. 1860-21, 22, 23; 1863-90, 91, 92
D. H., 1866-8
J. L., 1865-93
John, Nov. 1858-33; 1870-34
Lazarus, Nov. 1858-30, 36
Lucinda Stiles (Mrs. Robert Young), 1868-67
Nathaniel, 1866-103
Polly Laughlin (Mrs. Lazarus Young), Sept. 1860-6
Robert, 1868-67
Sally (Mrs. Millerman), Nov. 1858-36
YOUNGMAN
_____, 1862-70
YOUNGS
A. B., Sept. 1860-21
James, Mar. 1860-32; 1864-64; 1866-95
YOUNGS continued
Jesse, Mar. 1859-13
Kate, 1870-34
Ruth Palmer (Mrs. Jesse Youngs), Mar. 1859-13

ZAHM
_____, 1876-10
Pvt., 1876-10
A. Louis, 1868-87
ZEIBER
Henry, 1876-84
ZEIGLER
D. (Major), 1864-118
ZEISBERGER
_____, Sept. 1860-3
David, Mar. 1860-13; Sept. 1860-3; 1862-66, 67, 70, 74, 75; 1874-43
ZERBA
Phillip J., 1876-84
ZIMMER
Lewis (Capt.), 1874-61
ZINZENDORFF
Count, 1862-55, 56, 57, 58, 60, 61
Benigna, 1862-61
ZOLMAN
John, 1870-54
ZORN
Frederick, 1876-83